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Showing and Sharing God's Love

31 May 2026
Trinity Sunday

And a very special welcome if it's your first time here!

- You are very welcome to stay for refreshments at the end of the service if you can.
- If you would like to know about other things that happen in our church life, please see our website – www.cofebishopstoke.com
- During one of the songs in our service a collection is normally made. If you are able to use one of the Gift Aid envelopes, it really does make a difference and is most appreciated. At St Mary's we are also able to take card donations following the service. If you would like to find out about regular, tax-efficient giving, please let us know or take a look at <https://www.cofebishopstoke.com/giving-to-our-church>.

Today

St Paul's

9.15 am Holy Communion

St Mary's

10.45 am Church Together

Bible Readings

[Psalm 8]

2 Corinthians 13.11-13 (p.1167)

Matthew 28.16-20 (p.1000)

Contact: Revd Richard Wise – 023 8061 2192

email. cofebishopstoke.lector@gmail.com

Collects / Prayers for this week

Almighty and everlasting God,
you have given us your servants grace,
by the confession of a true faith,
to acknowledge the glory of the eternal Trinity
and in the power of the divine majesty to worship the Unity:
keep us steadfast in this faith,
that we may evermore be defended from all adversities;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Holy God,
faithful and unchanging:
enlarge our minds with the knowledge of your truth,
and draw us more deeply into the mystery of your love,
that we may truly worship you,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Items for prayer...

- **the unwell** – Molly, Wendy, Annette, Leah, Graham, Sandra, Pamela, Finn, Clare, Pauline, Robert, Bob, Elizabeth, Fiona, Sue, Carl & Liz, Denise, Edna, David, Jocelyn, Shane, Amelia, Glyn, Karen, Tracy, Maureen, Liz, Charlotte, Janet, Tommy
- **baptism** – George on Saturday; his family and friends who come
- **our parish** – those who live in Hamilton Road
- **School Pastors** – Tuesday lunchtime at Stoke Park Junior
- **Open the Book assemblies** – Wednesday morning at Stoke Park Infant and Junior Schools
- **young people and students** – all who have exams over the coming weeks, including those in our church family
- **peace** – in the Middle East; between Ukraine and Russia; in Sudan; and other parts of the world where there is conflict. 'God of mercy and peace, draw near to all who suffer. Strengthen those who serve, and guide leaders to choose what protects life. Bring comfort to the grieving, provide daily bread to the hungry,

heal wounds seen and unseen, and make a way for peace.
Amen. (Embrace the Middle East)

- **Ebola** – those suffering in the DRC, Rwanda & Uganda
- **the ecological and climate emergency** – those suffering most from this; the decisions and actions of world leaders; for each of us to do whatever we can to make a positive difference. You may wish to use the [Green Christian Prayer Guide](#) or take a copy of *Storm of Hope* from the back of church

WHAT'S HAPPENING?

This Week

Mon	2.30 pm	Prayer Healing Fellowship (St Paul's)
Tues	9 am	Morning Prayer (Methodist Church)
	9.30 am	Tots & Tinies toddlers (St Mary's)
	8 pm	Church family group (Zoom)
Wed	8 pm	Compline / Night Prayer (Zoom)
Thurs	9.30 am	Holy Communion – BCP (St Paul's)
Sat	2 - 4 pm	Hymnathon (St Mary's)
Sun	10.45 am	Parish Communion (St Mary's)
	4 - 6 pm	Messy Church (St Mary's)

Café @ St Mary's and Plant Sale for Christian Aid Many thanks to everyone who helped with this by growing plants, making cakes or marmalade, donating raffle prizes, setting up, helping on the day, or simply coming along. So far, we have raised about £850 for Christian Aid. We couldn't have done this without your help and kindness, and there were lots of smiles both inside and outside the church!

If you'd still like to give to our Christian Aid Week appeal, you can do so at <https://caw.christianaid.org.uk/fundraiser-2026/bishopstoke-christian-aid-week> or by returning one of the envelopes to church TODAY. The online giving will also remain open until the end of TODAY.

Many thanks for whatever you are able to give!

Hymnathon THIS SATURDAY - 6 June - we will be holding a hymnathon: A Hymn Journey in June. It will be at St Mary's from 2 - 4

pm, and there will be refreshments, a raffle, and the opportunity to donate to the Urgent Repairs fund. Enough hymns have now been chosen, but please come along – and feel free to invite friends who may enjoy it!

Café @ St Mary's Our next café will be on Saturday 13 June from 10 am - 12.30 pm at St Mary's. It will be just £3 for a drink and delicious slice of homemade cake. There will be a raffle and stalls, including books, and all proceeds will go to the Urgent Repairs fund.

Mission to Seafarers We are very pleased to let you know that around Christmas we raised an amazing £1018 for the Mission to Seafarers. A huge thank you to everyone in our community who donated to this. Kate Powell, the Port Chaplain in Southampton, is extremely grateful.

Anna Chaplaincy We are very sorry that Janet has stood down from preparing to be our Anna Chaplain and moved to another church. We are grateful for all she contributed to our church over the past year.

Tetrapaks We need a few juice cartons for Messy Church next Sunday. If you use some before then, please could you bring them to church? But please don't squash them!

Sound desk at St Mary's It would be very helpful if more people were able to operate the sound desk during services. If you would like to try this, please have a word with Richard, and he will give you some brief training.

Some small tasks you may like to help with... We are very grateful to those who clean St Mary's, normally on a Friday. If you would like to join the rota to do that once a month, please let Richard know. However, you may like to take on one of these smaller tasks at St Mary's, not necessarily every week, but perhaps once a month or as often as you can manage:

- wash the toilet floor on a Sunday afternoon / evening or Monday morning (takes 10 minutes)
- move the chairs and then Hoover the carpet sometime on a Monday ready for our toddler group (takes about 30 minutes)
- change the altar frontal whenever the season changes (8 or 9 times a year, but it wouldn't matter if you couldn't do all of them)

Church Members' Facebook group We have a closed Facebook group as a safe and supportive space for members of our church community to share updates and stay connected.

If you are on the church electoral roll or Church Family List, you are able to join. Otherwise, if you'd like to join, please fill in a Church Contact Consent form from the back of church and return it to Richard. You can find the page at

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1198939002408476> or by scanning this QR code:



St Mary's Urgent Repairs Fund Thank you so much for all your giving and fundraising so far for this. We have now raised about £35,000. If you would like to make a gift, please see the leaflets or poster at the back of church, or simply put your donation in an envelope marked 'Urgent Repairs'. We would also be very grateful if you can Gift Aid it – there are Gift Aid forms at the back of church. Alternatively, please go to <https://www.cofebishopstoke.com/urgent-repairs> Many thanks!

Safeguarding in our church This is everyone's responsibility! If you have any concerns about a child / young person or vulnerable adult in our church, please contact our Parish Safeguarding Officer, Margaret Ward, on 07778 691302 or by emailing cofebishopstokesafeguarding@gmail.com.

Please also let Margaret know if you have been made to feel unsafe in any way. You can find out more about Safeguarding and other people who may be contacted on the posters at the back of each church or [on our website](#).



Pastoral Care Our church has two pastoral care co-ordinators, Ann and Joan. Together with others, they are able to offer friendship, support and prayer on behalf of St Mary's and St Paul's to both church members and the wider community. They are happy to arrange for someone to visit you at home or in hospital, bring communion to you if you are unable to get to church, or to ask on your behalf for the Prayer Healing Fellowship to include you in their prayers.

Please do not hesitate to contact Ann or Joan if you need help or you know someone else who might. If you ask on behalf of someone else,

please ensure that they consent to receive pastoral care or prayer from the church.

Ann Brown – 023 8061 3893

Joan Cook – 023 8060 2150

Your contact details If you come to church regularly but have never completed a Church Contact Consent form, we would really encourage you to do so. There are copies of the form at the back of each church. If you have moved or changed your phone number, there's no need to fill in another form, but please could you let Richard know your new details? (Simply being on the electoral roll doesn't give us permission to contact you under GDPR rules.) Many thanks.

**A Rocha UK's
Easy Eco Tips -
May 2026**



Support pollinators. Nothing says spring like the buzz of a bee! But these precious pollinators are declining due to habitat loss, climate change and agricultural intensification. Wednesday 20 May is World Bee Day, so look around to see how you can improve habitats for bees and other pollinators. Read more about bees, butterflies and habitats that support them in our Target 25 resources at www.arocha.org.uk/what-we-do/target-25. Sow a pollinator friendly seed mix, make or buy a bee hotel, let some wildflowers grow in your garden, and don't use pesticides. Pray that our pollinator populations will increase. For more about World Bee Day visit: www.awarenessdays.com/awareness-days-calendar/world-bee-day/

Eastleigh Basics Bank are always very grateful for our support, and at the moment, due to the rise in the cost of living, the need is greater than ever. Donations of food can be made at many local supermarkets, the Basics Bank in Wells Place, or brought to church. You can see the most up-to-date list on their [website](#), as well as the supermarkets which receive donations. They would also be very grateful for unwanted carrier bags, which are becoming scarcer! You can bring them to church too. Many thanks for whatever you are able to give.

Church compost bins We have compost bins in St Mary's churchyard (near the hedge on the east side of the church) and at St Paul's (behind the hedge in the far corner of the grass). You are very welcome to put the following items in them: cut flowers, vegetable peelings, fruit cores and peel / skin, nettles, compostable cups. Please do not put plastic, dog poo, hedge cuttings, grass cuttings, horsetail weed or other food waste in the bin. If you have any queries, please contact Jenny on compostjen@gmail.com Many thanks.

Online giving to our church If you would like to give a one-off or regular gift online to St Mary's & St Paul's, our bank details are:

Account name: Bishopstoke PCC
Sort Code: 40-46-39
Account no.: 91780646

If you would like us to claim Gift Aid, you can download our Gift Aid declaration form from [this page](#) on our website. If you can't print it off, just let us know and we'll get a copy to you. There are also copies at the back of each church. We really encourage you to Gift Aid donations if you can – if you need any help with this, please contact Carla at cofebishopstoke.treasurer@gmail.com or phone Richard, as we are between Gift Aid Secretaries at the moment.

Parish Giving Scheme This enables you to give a regular or one-off gift to our church. If you wish to Gift Aid your donations, this can be done without filling in an additional form. You can also give anonymously (if you wish), whilst still enabling us to claim Gift Aid. To join the scheme, please go to our page at [PGS](#).

Giving using the card machine and via the Donate button on our website For some people, using the card machine is ideal, and it is especially helpful for the public at special events. Giving via the website is a very straightforward way of donating, especially for those who do not normally attend church. Please be aware, however, that there is a small charge (just under 2%) to the church for donations made in this way. We encourage church members to give to our church regularly if they can, and the Parish Giving Scheme, a standing order, or cash / cheque in a stewardship envelope are the best ways to do this. The Parish Giving Scheme tops them all, as they administer the Gift Aid for us!

Many thanks for whatever you are able to give or already give!

Please follow us on Facebook if you can – and like or share some of our posts! It will help us spread the word about what we're doing as a church.

<https://www.facebook.com/CofEBishopstoke/>

<https://www.facebook.com/CofEBishopstokeMessyChurch/>