

# Sunday Message

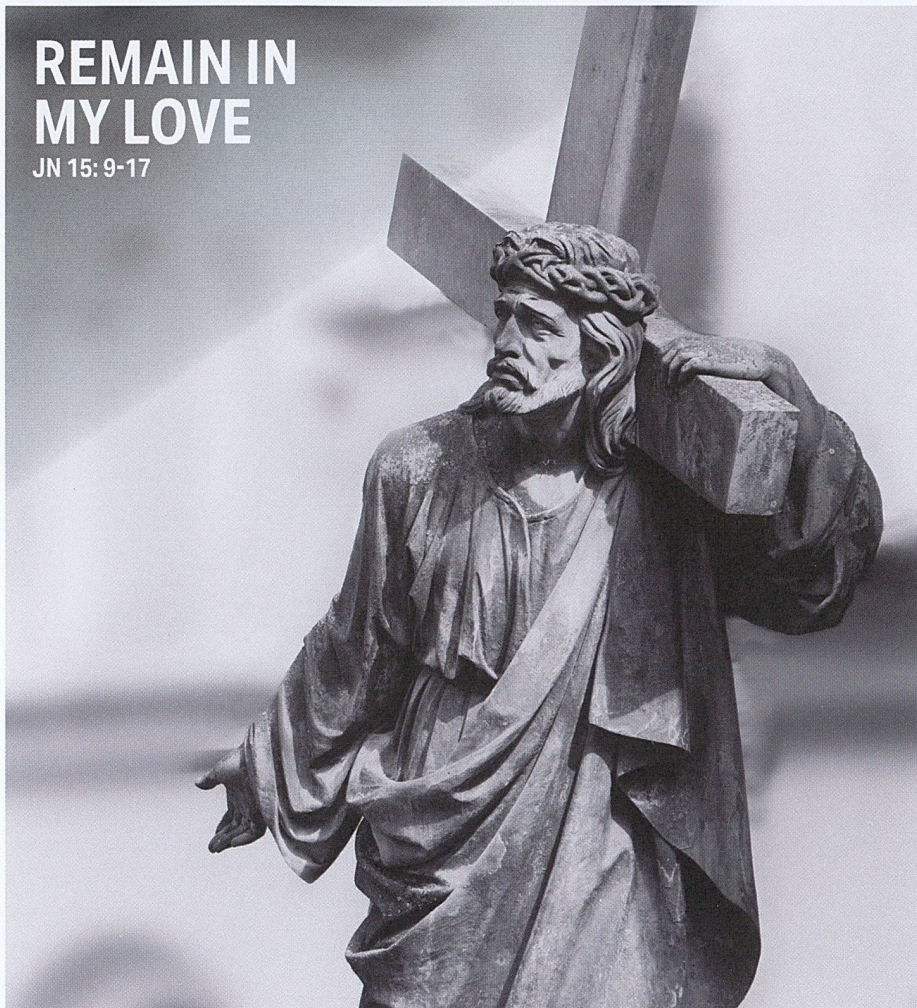
SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

THE WORD

Year B • 5 May 2024 • Psalter Week 2

## REMAIN IN MY LOVE

JN 15: 9-17



## REFLECT

A story is told of a brilliant surgeon. It was his first time that a particular brain operation had been carried out in the country. It was performed upon a young man of great promise. It was an operation of the greatest delicacy in which a small error would have had fatal consequences. In the outcome, the operation was a triumph. But it involved several hours of intense and uninterrupted concentration on the part of the surgeon. When it was over, a nurse had to take him by the hand, and lead him from the operating theatre like a blind man or a little child.

That kind of self-giving and concentration on the needs of another reflects something of the quality of God's love in Jesus. This kind of love is sometimes beyond our comprehension. Jesus hopes that we will choose to keep on giving of ourselves in love, even when the giving hurts, even when we feel that we have nothing else to give. But it's that kind of love that mirrors God's kind of love. He loves us beyond all telling.

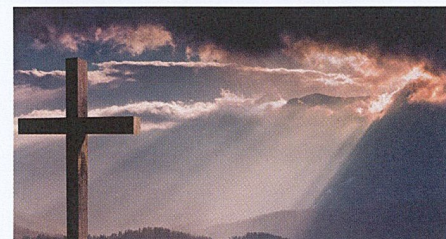
Some might say that this is the message we find the hardest to believe. That despite all my shortcomings and failings, there is a love that comes from God, that is unrelenting in its power. We receive this gift freely. As Jesus says, 'You did not choose me, no, I chose you.' ■

**We are now in the heart of the Easter Season. John's Gospel presents us with a world, where the Risen Christ continues to have an impact on the lives of his followers.**

A series of speeches from Jesus, with powerful sentiments, are designed to ground the disciples and the early Church in one of the most fundamental aspects of his teaching. God's love for all of humanity. When John talks about the love of God, he is clear what he means: 'This is the love I mean: not our love for God, but God's love for us.' The same message appears in the Gospel: 'You did not choose me, no, I chose you.' God has made an everlasting decision to love us. God's love is first, God has opted for us, declared his choice, taken us on. It is a decisive movement of love that began with the Father. 'As the father has loved me, so I have loved you. Remain in my love.' So here lies the task before us believers. Allowing God's love to come into our lives, to feel it, to recognise it, to believe it. These are the first steps. But now comes the challenge. We are to remain in God's love. This will mean that we too must make a choice. We choose to believe that for some reason, God has seen fit to embrace humanity, with all its shortcomings. We remain in his love. Jesus shows that he could have no greater love than to lay down his life for the sake of others. That is the powerful message of Easter. ■

## LEARN

'The Resurrection of Jesus is the crowning truth in our faith in Christ, a faith believed and lived as the central truth by the first Christian Community.' (Catechism 638)



## DO

Organise a meeting of your parish pastoral council and reflect on how your faith community responds to the needs of people on the margins of society.



## SAY

'For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him, shall not perish, but have eternal life.' (Jn 3:16)



HASLEMERE  
HINDHEAD  
CHIDDINGFOLD

# Parish Bulletin

## Please Note

The weekend of 11th and 12th May, we will welcome a Missionary Priest (St Francis Xavier Foreign Mission Society). They are making their annual Mission appeal in our diocese this year.

He will celebrate all the three Masses over the weekend.

Just to let you know I will be away Monday 6th to Monday 13th May for my Post Easter break.

In case of need, please contact Fr Jonathan How – 01483 416880 or email- pp.godalming@abdiocese.org.uk, while I am away.

### The Ascension of the Lord -

Vigil Mass (8th May evening) will be in Farnham, St Joan of Arc at 7pm.

Thursday, 9th May - Masses available at Holy Cross 9:30 am, evening Mass at Milford, St Joseph – 8pm.

**19th of May (Sunday)**, four of our children will be making their First Holy Communion during 11am Mass. I anticipate the Mass attendance will be more than the usual with the family and friends of the FHC children.

Please keep in your prayers our four children Sam and Luna (brother & sister ) Orla and Dominick as they prepare for the special event in their lives. It is also going to be a moment of special celebration and moment of grace for our parish community.

God Bless, Fr Rajesh

## St Anselm

Parishioners will be pleased to hear that we are restarting wine and savouries after Saturday 6pm mass at St Anselm on the first Saturday of the month. We hope you will join us this Saturday 4th May and all are very welcome.

## Prayer Intention for May

Pope Francis' prayer intention for May is that men and women religious, and seminarians, grow in their own vocational journey through human, pastoral, spiritual and community formation, leading them to be credible witnesses of the Gospel.

## Week of Guided Prayer, Godalming, 16 - 21 June 2024

A Week of Guided Prayer is a way of making a directed retreat in the midst of our busy lives and is often called a 'Retreat in Daily Life'. It will allow you to step away from the noise and haste of everyday life and into the quiet beauty of the Franciscan Centre.

Participants commit to spending 30 minutes each day in prayer, as well as coming to Ladywell each day to talk about their prayer experience with a trained Spiritual Director and to enjoy the wonderful grounds and prayer spaces. Your Spiritual Director will listen attentively and offer suggestions for allowing you to go deeper into your relationship with God. The 30-minute one-to-one sessions run from Monday to Friday, at a time convenient to you and your Director.

The week begins on Sunday 16 June at 2.30pm at the Franciscan Centre Ladywell, with a group session to introduce participants to the format of the week; to give some explanation

of praying with scripture; to spend some time in prayer together; to introduce participants to their Spiritual Director for the week; and to share some social time and light refreshments together.

On Wednesday 19 June there will be a group session at Ladywell on "Discernment" at 7.30pm.

The week ends on Friday 21 June at 7.30pm, coming together again to share our experiences and to bring the week to a prayerful close.

If you would like to take part please register via the following link by 26 May. Places are limited and there will be a reserve list.

<https://stedsgod.churchsuite.com/events/wwcf6kzd>

## Pilgrimage to Walsingham—Still places available!

Join us for our Parish Pilgrimage to Walsingham, the National Shrine and Basilica to Our Lady on Saturday 18th May 2024.

In Celebration of Mary, on our Pilgrimage we will have the opportunity for Private Prayer in the Slipper Chapel, the Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, Celebration of Confession, Attendance at the Pilgrim Mass, Praying the Rosary, and a Visit to the Holy House in Walsingham, built at Mary's request in 1049, as an exact replica of Mary's home in Nazareth when the Angel visited her, as a Perpetual Memorial of the Annunciation.

This is a Parish Event, and there will be lots of opportunities for us to come together, which is a great way for new parishioners to get to know our parish family, including our shared picnic lunch in the grounds of the Shrine, followed by an opportunity of Pray the Rosary as we Process into Walsingham.

Walsingham is 4 hours away, in Norfolk, so as part of our pilgrimage this means an early start! We will depart at 6.30am, by coach, and will have 2 comfort stops enroute. Our coach also has facilities on board. We should all bring a packed lunch, which we can leave on the coach until lunchtime. For anyone not wanting to walk in procession to Walsingham, they can be driven into Walsingham on the coach to meet us at the Holy House. We expect to return home around 8.30pm.

The cost for the day is £45.00 per adult, and £25.00 per child (under 18). This can be paid in 2 instalments, over 2 months, if helpful. We have sign-up sheets at the back of Church. If you have any questions please call Rachel on 01428-658652 or speak to Diane in the parish office, where the Coach payments should be sent or they can be made on the digital plate or website (please use reference Walsingham). Many thanks.

## 100 Club Winners April

£150	Maria Hatton
£100	Nathan D'Cruze
£50	Kath Hudnott

## Big Church Festival

Big Church Festival 25-26 May 2024

A Christian music festival in the heart of our Diocese. Join with 30,000 people from across the UK and beyond to worship together on the Wiston estate in West Sussex. With Mass on

Sunday morning being celebrated by our very own Bishop Richard.

Save up to 52% by booking with this link <https://bigchurch.group/2024/catholics-at-big-church-festival>

## 100 Club

Thank you to all members of the 100 Club for their continued membership. The 100 Club is one of the main ways in which the whole Parish can continue to raise money on a regular basis for charitable donations. The cost of one ticket is £5 per month but you can have more than one ticket plus there is a chance of winning a cash prize.,£150, £100 & £50. If you are interested in joining the 100 Club forms are available at the back of the Church, given to Fr Rajesh or contact The Parish Office.

## The Haslemere Food Bank

The Food Bank is having to support increasing numbers of people in need at a time when many are experiencing finan-

cial hardship. Please place items in the collection box in the porch. Thank you all for your continuing generosity in support of those in need.

## April/May Jubilarians

Judith Davys, Jibi Puthenkudilil Jose , Richard Ives, Deborah Stanton, Harriet Schiavone, Nick Budden, James Coeur-de-Lion, Stephen Nathan, Dipak Barua, Charlotte Hammond, Christine Follett, Anna Angel Kocheri Jose, Nicole Kerrigan, Aileen Assender, Alexander Hawley, Karen Nugent, Gwynneth Farrell, James Rapp, Maria Ryan, Dot Jackson, Joe Sully, Thomas Joseph,, Athena Nirish, John Ravenscroft, Cristina Rojo, Robert Crabtree, Dermott Harrison, Christy Puthenveetil, Lincy

Thomas, David Lindsay, Jane Lynskey, Mary Ravenscroft, Ancy Sherine,, Margaret Engel and Anthony Myers.

## Repository

The shop at Our Lady of Lourdes will now usually be open every Sunday following the 11am Mass. Come and browse.

## Sudan Crisis Appeal

Catholic charity CAFOD has launched an emergency appeal to support families in Sudan. There is a brief window to act before the growing season in Sudan starts in June, with fears of an impending – yet preventable – famine growing.

Donations to CAFOD's Sudan Appeal can be made [here](#).

Mass Schedule & Intentions		
<b>Sunday 5 May — SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER</b>		
6pm (Sat)	SA	All Parishioners
9.00am	ST	
9.30am	HX	
11.00am	OLL	
<b>Monday 6 May — Monday after the Sixth Sunday of Easter</b>		
11.30am	HX	
<b>Tuesday 7 May — Tuesday after the Sixth Sunday of Easter</b>		
10am	SA	NO MASS
11.30am	HX	
<b>Wednesday 8 May — Wednesday after the Sixth Sunday of Easter</b>		
9.30am	HX	NO MASS St Joan of Arch, Farhnam (Vigil Mass)
10am	ST	
7pm		
<b>Thursday 9 May – THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD</b>		
9.30am	HX	St Joseph, Milford, Ascension Day Mass
8pm		
<b>Friday 10 May – Friday after the sixth Sunday of Easter</b>		
10am	OLL	NO MASS
<b>Saturday 11 May – Saturday after the sixth Sunday of Easter</b>		
<b>Sunday 12 May — SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER</b>		
6pm (Sat)	SA	
9.00am	ST	
9.30am	HX	
11.00am	OLL	
Confession on Saturdays by appointment tel.: 01428 643877		

### Appeal and Second Collection

Next Week

St Francis Xavier

Foreign Mission Society

### Live Simply Tips

Buy local , buy seasonal - save air miles, reduce pollution

### Please Pray For

**The sick:** Henrietta Lenahan (Holt), Veronica Slocock, Arul Salathian, Diana Molyneux, Louise Milford, Hazel O'Flynn, Joan Shaw, Abigail Stafford Johnson, Livy Miller, Louise Reeve, Patricia Reidy, Tish Watkinson, Jo Allen, Jane Adolph, Carmel & Roland Murray, Teresa Marshall, Alberto Costantini, Sebastian Codlin, and Betty Harding.

**The Deceased:** Betty Doreen Jordan, Flora Echeagaray, Amy Jerome, Mary Breen, Margaret McGuire, Veronica Llwellyn, Andrzej Sczaniecki, Peggy & Ernest May, Veronica Fishpool, Brian Concanon, Margaret Mary Standage, Dave McCubbin, Marion Risi, Rhoda Eva Cafferata, Sister Brigid Mary Maguire FC, Vera Patricia Edgar and Sister Mary Damian.

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON**

Proclaim a joyful sound and let it be heard;  
proclaim to the ends of the earth:  
The Lord has freed his people, alleluia.

**GLORIA**

Glory to God in the highest,  
and on earth peace to people of good will.

We praise you,  
we bless you,  
we adore you,  
we glorify you,  
we give you thanks for your great glory,  
Lord God, heavenly King,  
O God, almighty Father.

Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,  
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,  
you take away the sins of the world,  
have mercy on us;  
you take away the sins of the world,  
receive our prayer;  
you are seated at the right hand of the Father,  
have mercy on us.

For you alone are the Holy One,  
you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,  
with the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God the Father.  
Amen.

**COLLECT**

Grant, almighty God,  
that we may celebrate with heartfelt devotion  
these days of joy,  
which we keep in honour of the risen Lord,  
and that what we relive in remembrance  
we may always hold to in what we do.  
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the  
Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever.  
Amen.

**FIRST READING** Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

As Peter reached the house Cornelius went out to meet him, knelt at his feet and prostrated himself. But Peter helped him up. "Stand up," he said "I am only a man after all!"

Then Peter addressed them: "The truth I have now come to realise" he said, "is that God does not have favourites, but that anybody of any nationality who fears God and does what is right is acceptable to him."

While Peter was still speaking the Holy Spirit came down on all the listeners. Jewish believers who had accompanied Peter were all astonished that the gift of the Holy Spirit should be poured out on the pagans too, since they could hear them speaking strange languages and proclaiming the greatness of God. Peter himself then said, "Could anyone refuse the water of baptism to these people, now they have received the Holy Spirit just as much as we have?" He then gave orders for them to be baptised in the name of Jesus Christ. Afterwards they begged him to stay on for some days.

The word of the Lord.  
Thanks be to God.

**PSALM**

Psalm 97 (98):1-4

Response:

**The Lord has shown his salvation to the nations.**

Or **Alleluia!**

- 1 Sing a new song to the Lord for he has worked wonders. His right hand and his holy arm have brought salvation. (R.)
- 2 The Lord has made known his salvation; he has shown his justice to the nations. He has remembered his truth and love for the house of Israel. (R.)
- 3 All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God. Shout to the Lord all the earth, ring out your joy. (R.)

**SECOND READING**

1 John 4:7-10

A reading from the first letter of St John.

My dear people,  
let us love one another  
since love comes from God  
and everyone who loves is begotten by God  
and knows God.  
Anyone who fails to love can never have known  
God,  
because God is love.  
God's love for us was revealed  
when God sent into the world his only Son  
so that we could have life through him;  
this is the love I mean:  
not our love for God,  
but God's love for us when he sent his Son  
to be the sacrifice that takes our sins away.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Alleluia, alleluia! Jesus said: 'If anyone loves me he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we shall come to him. Alleluia!'

**GOSPEL**

John 15:9-17

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

Jesus said to his disciples:  
"As the Father has loved me,  
so have I loved you.  
Remain in my love.  
If you keep my commandments  
you will remain in my love,  
just as I have kept my Father's commandments  
and remain in his love.  
I have told you this  
so that my own joy may be in you  
and your joy be complete.  
This is my commandment:  
love one another  
as I have loved you.  
A man can have no greater love  
than to lay down his life for his friends.  
You are my friends,  
if you do what I command you.  
I shall not call you servants any more,  
because a servant does not know  
his master's business;  
I call you friends,  
because I have made known to you  
everything I have learnt from my Father.

You did not choose me,  
no, I chose you,  
and I commissioned you  
to go out and to bear fruit,  
fruit that will last;  
and then the Father will give you  
anything you ask him in my name.

What I command you  
is to love one another."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

**PROFESSION OF FAITH**

I believe in God,  
the Father almighty,  
Creator of heaven and earth,  
and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,  
*(all bow during the next two lines)*

who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died and was buried;  
he descended into hell;  
on the third day he rose again from the dead;  
he ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of God the  
Father almighty;  
from there he will come to judge the living  
and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and life everlasting.  
Amen.

**PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS**

May our prayers rise up to you, O Lord,  
together with the sacrificial offerings,  
so that, purified by your graciousness,  
we may be conformed to the mysteries of your  
mighty love.  
Through Christ our Lord.  
Amen.

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON**

If you love me, keep my commandments, says  
the Lord,  
and I will ask the Father and he will send you  
another Paraclete,  
to abide with you forever, alleluia.

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Almighty ever-living God,  
who restore us to eternal life in the Resurrection  
of Christ,  
increase in us, we pray, the fruits of this paschal  
Sacrament  
and pour into our hearts the strength of this  
saving food.  
Through Christ our Lord. Amen.