

## Elham Valley Group Newsletter 17th May 2026

“Spreading the Gospel of Jesus Christ to all”

Find us online : [www.elhamvalleygroupofchurches.co.uk](http://www.elhamvalleygroupofchurches.co.uk) OR  
[www.achurchnearyou.com](http://www.achurchnearyou.com)

### This week's services : 7th Sunday of Easter

**8.30am – Morning Prayer – St Mary & St Radegund, Postling**

**9.30am – Eucharist – St Mary the Virgin, Elham**

**9.30am – Morning Prayer – St Martin, Acrise**

**10am – Eucharist – St Mary & St Ethelburga, Lyminge**

**11.15am – New Day – St Mary Magdalene, Denton**

**4pm – Evening Prayer – St Oswald, Paddlesworth**

**Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> May – 8.30am – Morning Prayer – Elham**

#### **The Collect:**

Risen, ascended Lord, as we rejoice at your triumph, fill your Church on earth with power and compassion, that all who are estranged by sin may find forgiveness and know your peace, to the glory of God the Father. **Amen**

#### **Post Communion Prayer:**

Eternal God, giver of love and power, your Son Jesus Christ has sent us into all the world to preach the gospel of his kingdom: confirm us in this mission, and help us to live the good news we proclaim; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

#### **Reading: Acts 1:6-14**

So when they had come together, they asked him, 'Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?' <sup>7</sup> He replied, 'It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. <sup>8</sup> But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.' <sup>9</sup> When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. <sup>10</sup> While he was going and they were gazing up towards heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. <sup>11</sup> They said, 'Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up towards heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.' <sup>12</sup> Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a sabbath day's journey away. <sup>13</sup> When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying, Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. <sup>14</sup> All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

#### **Gospel Reading: John 17:1-11**

After Jesus had spoken these words, he looked up to heaven and said, 'Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, <sup>2</sup> since you have given him

authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. <sup>3</sup> And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. <sup>4</sup> I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. <sup>5</sup> So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed. <sup>6</sup> I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. <sup>7</sup> Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; <sup>8</sup> for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. <sup>9</sup> I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. <sup>10</sup> All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. <sup>11</sup> And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one.

Please Pray for *Val Pinder, Roger Goody, Janet Hutchings, Jenni Lister, The Bradley family, Wendy Cook, Sue Leaver, Millie Collins, Jill Fitch, Poppy Allard, John Meers, Michael Kirk, Alice Mills, Lilian Bowles & family, Claire Laker.*

***Please contact the Benefice Administrator Alison Dale 07985025381 or [beneficeadmin@elhamvalleygroupofchurches.co.uk](mailto:beneficeadmin@elhamvalleygroupofchurches.co.uk) to add people to the prayers.***

Please pray for the departed, *Martyn Bowles & Sheila Huckle*, and those for whom an anniversary of death falls at this time, *Bert Want, Alan Smith, Derek Tuck & Percival Coleman.*

To arrange for Funerals, Thanksgivings, Blessings, Renewal of Vows and *all other services* please contact the Rector – [revcarolbates@gmail.com](mailto:revcarolbates@gmail.com) 0777 239 4855

For Baptisms and Weddings please contact the Benefice Administrator as above.

### **Parish Notices:**

***Funeral – Sheila Huckle – 15<sup>th</sup> May at 12pm – Barham Crematorium;***

***Jacqueline Weir – 27<sup>th</sup> May at 1pm – Elham church & 2pm - cemetery***

***Burial – Stephen Parmenter – 26<sup>th</sup> May at 11am – Lyminge***

***Wedding – Georgia Dingle & William Penswick – 23<sup>rd</sup> May at 12.30pm - Elham***

***Coffee Morning – Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> May 10.30-12- All Saints, Stanford***

***Postling Open Gardens – Sat. & Sun 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup> June 12 – 5pm***

***Recital by Orsay Trio – Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> June 3pm – Elham***

### **Benefice Notices:**

#### **APCM dates**

**Elham – 14<sup>th</sup> May at 6pm – in the church**