

St Mary, Whitegate and St Peter, Little Budworth

Readings for Ascension Day - 14th May 2026

Holy Communion at St Mary's

COLLECT:

Grant, we pray, almighty God,
that as we believe your only-begotten Son
our Lord Jesus Christ to have ascended into
the heavens, so we in heart and mind may
also ascend and with him continually dwell;
who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity
of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

FIRST READING:

Acts 1:1-11

In the first book, Theophilus, I wrote
about all that Jesus did and taught from
the beginning until the day when he was
taken up to heaven, after giving
instructions through the Holy Spirit to the
apostles whom he had chosen.

After his suffering he presented himself
alive to them by many convincing proofs,
appearing to them over the course of
forty days and speaking about the
kingdom of God.

While staying with them, he ordered
them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait
there for the promise of the Father. 'This',
he said, 'is what you have heard from
me; for John baptized with water, but you
will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not
many days from now.'

So when they had come together, they
asked him, 'Lord, is this the time when
you will restore the kingdom to Israel?'

He replied, 'It is not for you to know the
times or periods that the Father has set
by his own authority.'

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.'

When he had said this, as they were
watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud
took him out of their sight.

While he was going and they were gazing
up towards heaven, suddenly two men in
white robes stood by them. 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.'

GOSPEL READING:

Luke 24: 44-end

Then he said to them, 'These are my
words that I spoke to you while I was still
with you—that everything written about
me in the law of Moses, the prophets,
and the psalms must be fulfilled.'

Then he opened their minds to
understand the scriptures, and he said to
them, 'Thus it is written, that the Messiah
is to suffer and to rise from the dead on
the third day, and that repentance and
forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in
his name to all nations, beginning from
Jerusalem.'

You are witnesses of these things. And
see, I am sending upon you what my
Father promised; so stay here in the city
until you have been clothed with power
from on high.'

Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and, lifting up his hands, he blessed them. While he was blessing them, he withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven. And they worshipped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy; and they were continually in the temple blessing God.

POST-COMMUNION

God our Father, you have raised our humanity in Christ and have fed us with the bread of heaven:

mercifully grant that, nourished with such spiritual blessings, we may set our hearts in the heavenly places; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

SERVICES NEXT SUNDAY 17th May		
St Mary's	9.30 am	Morning Prayer
St Peter's	11.00 am	Holy Communion
St Mary's	11.30 am	Baptism

SAFEGUARDING:

St Mary's & St Peter's take our duty and obligation to protect all extremely seriously. We have adopted the national Church of England's procedures and guidelines. You can find out more about the national policies and procedures at www.churchofengland.org/safeguarding

If you have any safeguarding concerns or issues of a safeguarding matter then you can find useful contact information at: <https://www.chesterdiocese.org> and click on the "Safeguarding" tab