

Collect.

Almighty God, who through your only begotten Son Jesus Christ have overcome death and opened to us the gate of everlasting life: Grant that, as by your grace going before us you put into our minds good desires, so by your continual help we may bring them to good effect: We ask this through Jesus Christ our Risen Lord, who is alive with you and the Holy Spirit, one God now and for ever. Amen

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

(Acts 7.55–60)

Standing before the high priest and the council, Stephen, filled with the Holy Spirit, gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. 'Look,' he said, 'I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!' But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him; and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, 'Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.' Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, 'Lord, do not hold this sin against them.' When he had said this, he died.

PSALM 31 – “Be a rock of refuge for me, O Lord”**A reading from the first letter of Peter.**

(1 Peter 2.2–10)

Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation – if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good. Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God's sight. Like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. For it stands in scripture: 'See, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious; and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.' To you then who believe, he is precious; but for those who do not believe, 'The stone that the builders rejected has become the very head of the corner,' and 'A stone that makes them stumble, and a rock that makes them fall.' They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do. But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvellous light. Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

Hear the gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

(John 14.1–14)

Jesus said to his disciples: 'Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house there are many dwelling-places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. And you know the way to the place where I am going.' Thomas said to him, 'Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?' Jesus said to him, 'I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.' Philip said to him, 'Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied.' Jesus said to him, 'Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, "Show us the Father"? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works. Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves. Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.'

**Post Communion.**

Eternal God, whose Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life: Grant us to walk in his way, to rejoice in his truth, and to share his risen life; who is alive and reigns now and for ever. Amen

HYMN NUMBERS:**368 - All my hope on God is founded.****606 - Thy hand O God has guided.****96 - Jesu, lover of my soul.****585 - The churches one foundation.****429 - Forth in the peace of Christ we go.**

NOTICES:

ST. ANNE'S PCC MEETING:
Wednesday, 13th May, 4.00pm
in the sidechapel.

PEACE ADVENTURE: No meeting in May. We
resume again on 14th June.

PROCESS FOR APPOINTMENT OF A NEW BISHOP

Bishop Martin retires at the end of May, and as a diocesan family we are beginning the search for his successor. Have your say in the appointment at tinyurl.com/next-bishop It will take only a few minutes to complete, and it is **open until May 26th**. We welcome responses from everyone.

REGULAR EVENTS:

BIBLE STUDY:

MONDAYS – 2.00pm at St. Anne's church

QUIET PRAYER "PEACE ADVENTURE":

SECOND TUESDAY OF THE MONTH, at Wind Demons, West Brack Drive from 2pm-4pm & 7pm to 8pm

**NO PEACE ADVENTURE IN MAY.
WE WILL RESUME AGAIN IN JUNE.**

HEAR HERE CLINIC: 11-12noon

**FOURTH WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH
ALL UNLESS OTHERWISE UPDATED**

Services this Week

All services at St. Anne's unless otherwise stated

TUESDAY 7.00pm – Said Eucharist

WEDNESDAY 10.00am Said Eucharist

Midweek services are held in the side chapel

Services Next Sunday

(Last Sunday in the month 8.00am BCP)

20th May 2026 – Easter 5

8.00am Said Eucharist St. Anne's

9.00am Sung Eucharist Earnley

10.15am Sung Eucharist St. Anne's

Readings: Acts: 17: 22-31

1 Peter 3: 13-22

John 14: 15-21

Please send any notices for Pews News to

Barbara Blundell no later than

WEDNESDAY EVENING.

Tel: 670791 or email barbs.blundell@btinternet.com).

The Parishes of Earnley with East Wittering and Almodington

Pews News.

www.facebook.com/stanneschurcheastwittering

<http://stanneseastwittering.org.uk/>

We welcome all visitors to our churches.

All communicant members of Christ's church are warmly invited to receive the Sacraments. If you do not receive the sacraments then please come forward for God's Blessing.

(All services are at St. Anne's unless indicated)

3rd May 2026

Easter 5

Before the service and after the second bell, talk to God through quiet prayer and silent devotion, bringing to the Lord those events of your past week, and after the service, then talk to your friends.

If you are a visitor to our church, making a donation in the collection, and you are a taxpayer, the PCC would be very grateful if you could put your donation in one of the envelopes available at the end of the pews, and sign the Gift Aid Declaration on the envelope. In this way, the Church can claim a further 25p for every £1 you give. Thank you.
PLEASE MAKE CHEQUES PAYABLE TO "E.W.P.C.C"

Services today

(Last Sunday in the month 8.00am BCP)

8.00am Said Eucharist St. Anne's

9.00am Sung Eucharist Earnley

10.15am Sung Eucharist St. Anne's
4th SUNDAY of the month – Healing & Anointing

**FAMILY & FRIENDS HAS BEEN
UPDATED ACCORDING TO YOUR
REQUESTS**

Intercessions

The sick and those who have asked of our prayers:

Fr. John, Judy Williams, Nick Carter, Lorraine Hall, Len Holliday, Florence Sumakoloyl, Margaret Bate, Michael Pettman, Karen Grunert, Ava Kirby and members of our congregation who are unwell today.

From our families and friends, we remember

Matthew Finch, Dot Finch, Jules Pettitt, Tula Hunt and her family, Trevor Couzens, Lennart Nilsson, Kelly Saby. Also, all those in our local nursing homes & rest homes, the housebound, those who care for them, and all who have been recently bereaved

The Recently Departed

Christopher Ellis, Alan Wilson,

Those whose years mind falls at this time

Dorothy Peacock, Percy Goodall, Gloria Blendell, David Edwards, Constance Cormack, Florence Deadman, Florrie Edwards