



PARISH OF NESTON

PRAYER & ACTION



SUNDAY 17th MAY 2026 SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER EASTER

Readings: Ezekiel 36.24-28 (P.819) Acts 1.6-14 (P.114) John 17.1-11 (P.108)

<u>St Mary & St Helen</u>	8.00am	Holy Communion
	9.15-10am	<i>Jesus and Me</i> for young families
	10.45am	Sung Eucharist
<u>St Michael's</u>	9.30am	Sunday Praise
<u>St Thomas'</u>	9.30am	Eucharist
<u>YouTube Live Stream</u>	10.45am	Sung Eucharist. Search Parish of Neston

Collect for Seventh Sunday after Easter: O God the king of glory, you have exulted your only Son Jesus Christ with great triumph to your kingdom in heaven: we beseech you, leave us not comfortless, but send your Holy Spirit to strengthen us and exult us to the place where our Saviour Christ is gone before, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

CALENDAR FOR THIS WEEK

- Mo - Thur 9am Morning Prayer in the Parish Church**
 Mo 18 Acts 19.1-8; Ps 68.1-6; Jn 16.29-end
 Tu 19 Acts 20.17-27; Ps 68.9-10, 18-19; Jn 17.1-11
 We 20 Acts 20.28-end; Ps 68.27-28, 32-end; Jn 17.11-19
10am Holy Communion in the Falklands Chapel

- We 20 **10.30-11am MU Worldwide Wave of Prayer in the Falklands Chapel. Bring your Service sheet in MUM.**
 Th 21 Acts 22.30, 23.6-11; Ps 16.1, 5-end; Jn 17.20-end
9.30am Bible Study in Paisley Grey. Theme: Songs and poetic writing in the Bible.
2pm Holy Communion in St Michael's
 Fr 22 Acts 25.13-21; Ps 103.1-2, 11-12, 19-20; Jn 21.15-19
9.15-11.15am Stay and Play in the Parish Church.
5pm Parish Prayers on Zoom:
<https://us05web.zoom.us/j/89035035754?pwd=Ds1dYJA0wcHXjCtPWsqyauQxxjFEK9.1> Meeting ID: 890 3503 5754 Passcode: Neston24
 Sa 23 Acts 28.16-20, 30-end; Ps 11.4-end; Jn 21.20-end

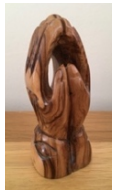
SUNDAY 24th MAY 2026 PENTECOST

Readings: Numbers 11.24-30 (P.135) Acts 2.1-21 (P.115) John 20.19-23 (P.112)

<u>St Mary & St Helen</u>	8.00am	Holy Communion
	9.15-10am	<i>Jesus and Me</i> for young families
	10.45am	Sung Eucharist
<u>St Michael's</u>	9.30am	Sunday Praise
<u>St Thomas'</u>	9.30am	Sunday Praise
<u>YouTube Live Stream</u>	10.45am	Sung Eucharist. Search Parish of Neston

PLEASE PRAY FOR HEALING

PARISH Alex Cummins, Margaret Gill, Beryl Hughes, Lesley Irvin, Richard Skinner and Norman Sutton
HOSPITAL David Johnson (Broadgreen).



We remember those who have died: We give thanks for the lives of those who have died recently: Bruce Charlick (Noelene's husband), Margaret Crinks (Kevin's Mother) and Val Kay (Funeral Wed 27th May 1pm at Landican followed by Memorial Service and refreshments in P Ch. All welcome). We pray for their families and friends at this sad time. We remember anniversaries that fall at this time.

Thank you for your Prayers and support during my time in hospital. Your thoughtfulness and care meant a great deal to me and my family. I am at home now and well on the way to recovery. God bless you all.
 Sue Ward

HOME COMMUNIONS: Anyone wishing to receive Holy Communion at home because of illness or infirmity, please contact *Kevin on 353 1000*.

We pray for Peace and an end to wars causing death and destruction in our increasingly troubled World

ANNUAL MEETINGS

Thirty-six people from all three churches met in the Parish Church on Thursday 7th May for the Annual Meetings. Fr Kevin welcomed everyone, and following prayer and a reading from 1 Corinthians 13, the Annual Meeting of Parishioners was held. Nigel Clawson and Mark Ryan were duly elected as Churchwardens.



At the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) Richard Lewis presented the Annual Report of the PCC and Sara Lilly presented the Annual accounts. Updated copies are available in the Parish Church. There were additional reports from Terry Abel (as retiring Churchwarden), on Safeguarding, and the Deanery Synod.

Richard Lewis was elected to the Deanery Synod, and Marion Forshaw, David Johnson, Valerie Johnson, Sara Lilly, Nicola Skarnes and Sue Thomas were



elected to the PCC. Kevin thanked Terry and Marion, the retiring Churchwardens, for their service over recent years, and looked forward to the future ministry work of the parish. *Richard Lewis, PCC Secretary*

CHRISTIAN AID WEEK 10th - 16th May

Christian Aid Week began last Sunday with an ecumenical Service highlighting the work of Christian Aid partners in Nairobi, Kenya.



The retired Bishop of Bristol, Vivienne Faull, spoke to us about the gifts of our Father God to us, from the Bible reading

Matt. 7.7-11. Bishop Vivienne gave us all much food for thought, illustrating her talk by sharing her times as a teacher in India.

Our next event this week is on **Thursday 14th May**, a Coffee Morning with a gift and produce Raffle at Burton, in the Sports Pavilion behind Gladstone Hall. 10am - 12.30pm.

Then if you need any plants on **Saturday 16th May** and go to Gordale Garden Centre, then you will find a Bucket Collection happening!

Please support us; if you haven't had an opportunity to donate, there are envelopes at the back of church today. Many thanks!

Lynne Vaughan and the Christian Aid Group

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'ONE MONK AND HIS DOG'

*A short extract from Chester Cathedral's Volunteer Newsletter
by David Diggory (on Facebook)*

Looking at Kevin and Brian (Brian is the dog, by the way) it's obvious they are close. "He's calm," says Kevin, "likes people, is alert, friendly, happy."

That comes across when you meet them. Brian sits at Kevin's feet in the refectory, waits for biscuits and water (he has his own flask) then settles at his master's feet pending further duties.



They're in the Cathedral together, where Kevin Crinks is Duty Chaplain on a Monday. Prayers at 11, 12 and 2; Communion at 12.30; in between, they are available to anyone who comes their way. Brian, of course, is the immediate attraction. People sense his gentle character, as they do Kevin's, and in no time at all they are chatting: about their own pets, their own lives and sometimes, about their worries and concerns. That's something Kevin likes about Brian: his ability to "break the ice" and help get a conversation going.



Kevin is a Franciscan friar: specifically, one of the Greyfriars (identified by the colour of their habit). They are committed to 'prayer, worship and study' but only six in the whole country are in parish ministry. "That's where it's at," says Kevin, "for me, for any Greyfriar."

"I wouldn't go anywhere without Brian, unless he's being naughty. That is his only discipline. He's otherwise completely untrained," Registered as a therapy dog, Brian accompanies Kevin at school assemblies, on visits to individual residences, and is always on hand in the churches of Neston where Kevin is Vicar.

Brian came into Kevin's life 14 years ago, "He's a Shih Tzu Jack Russell on his mum's side, and a Maltese terrier on his dad's. That makes him perfect, temperamentally, for what we do together." Brian, as you might

imagine, is quite a celebrity. "All the kids were shouting his name when we joined the village carnival procession.

He's known just about everywhere." This is evident in watching the pair in the café. Within minutes someone is bending to stroke Brian, enquiring about how he comes to be here, asking about Kevin and his ministry. Soon they leave, charmed by the little animal's sweetness, his quiet nature, and above all by the bond that is so evident between them. Uncertainties are seen as challenges, doubts are obstacles to be overcome, and perhaps most importantly, even someone as dedicated as Kevin has moments of inner reflection in search of clarity. But one thing is sure: Brian came into his life at the right time and has helped him in ways he could never have anticipated.

A gift from God? Only He knows.
