

# St. Mildred's Church Newsletter

May 2025 – 2025 June



**Tom Writes:**

**The Gift at the heart of Easter.**

**Pages 2-3**

**Easter at St. Mildred's**

**A photo album from Easter at St. Mildred's.**

**Pages 3-5**

**When the Holy Spirit Comes...**

**The Day of Pentecost in Acts 2 saw the fulfilment of many specific prophecies and outworking of much Jewish history.**

**Pages 6-7**



**Easter at St. Mildred's**

**The call of God on our lives at St. Mildred's is to make and equip disciples of Jesus Christ locally and globally in the power of the Holy Spirit.**

**[www.stmildreds.org.uk](http://www.stmildreds.org.uk)**



# Tom writes...

Easter Day has come and gone, but its significance stays with us all year. We marked the Easter story with services through Holy Week: Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and then an incredible Easter Sunday. At 6am, nearly 20 of us gathered in the early morning stillness to celebrate the resurrection of Jesus, which was first witnessed at dawn by the women planning to anoint Jesus' body. After a delicious breakfast (thank you to the Gills!), later that morning, many more joined us at 10am for a great Easter Day celebration:

**Alleluia. Christ is risen.  
He is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

We had an amazing time at the Easter Funday: 158 visiting adults, 154 visiting children — a huge number of people sharing the day with us. There was something for everyone: a friendly police of-



ficer (with his dogs) bringing unexpected Easter eggs, a brilliant team of firefighters and their truck, crafts, bouncy castle, rocket building, egg hunts, table tennis, basketball, football

## Inside this issue:

<b>Tom writes...</b>	<b>2-3</b>
<b>Easter at St. Mildred's</b>	<b>4-5</b>
<b>When the Holy Spirit Comes</b>	<b>6-7</b>
<b>Pentecost Worksheet</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Diary - February 2025 – March 2025</b>	<b>9-11</b>
<b>Bible Reading Program</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>Gift Aid</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>Prayer for Businesses</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>Notices</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>Back Page</b>	<b>16</b>

### Newsletter Articles

Anyone who regularly attends St Mildred's can contribute articles to the newsletter.

The next Newsletter will be the July - August 2025 Issue. The deadline for contributions is 11 June.

Any queries regarding newsletter:  
**Email: [newseditor16@gmail.com](mailto:newseditor16@gmail.com)**



and a video game area, and yes — an ice cream van. It was a day full of fun, laughter, and community.

Thank you to every person who helped make it so special.

At the heart of Easter is a gift — the grace of Jesus Christ. Paul puts it like this in 2 Corinthians 8:9:

***“For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that you through his poverty might become rich.”***

This verse reminds us that all Christian generosity flows out of this truth, that Jesus gave up everything for us. The riches he left behind weren't material — they were divine. He let go of glory and status and took on flesh, weakness, and suffering — all for our sake. That is grace. And it's not just an idea or a theory. It's God's goodness in action.

Because of him, we've become rich — not in money, but in mercy, forgiveness, hope, and the Spirit. Out of

that spiritual wealth, we give. Not just money, but time, energy, compassion, and community. We saw over Easter — in services and in celebration — the Lord's grace at work among us.

Now we look ahead to our Annual Church Meeting on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> May. We'll reflect on the past year, give thanks, elect new PCC members and churchwardens, and share lunch together.

And, as work started on the south aisle roof just before Easter, we'll be



talking more about the exciting next phase of our building project — a real opportunity to use the resources God's given us to bless others.

We give, because we've received so much!

Hope to see you there,

**Tom**

**Tom Lake - Vicar**



# Easter at St. Mildreds



The church is ready for Easter services following our Lent Course.

Refresh enjoyed a wonderful selection of cakes.



Easter Fun day arrived and with it a flurry of preparation for excited visitors ready to try their hands at crafts and fun for the whole family.

Cups of tea and hot cross buns on continual supply with our kitchen heroes valiantly holding the fort.



Valet parking for the push-chairs.

Daniel. Very smart in yellow.



A chance to greet our neighbours and celebrate community together including our Police and Fire Service.



Easter Day dawns and a selection of St. Mildreds sprang out of bed to greet the dawn with a service held outside followed by a delicious breakfast.



Easter Day Service ... the church resounds to Songs of Praise.

**Our Lord Reigns!**



# When The Holy Spirit Comes ...

The Day of Pentecost in Acts 2 saw the fulfilment of many specific prophecies and outworking of much Jewish history.

“Pentecost” means “fifty”, and refers to the fifty days following Passover – the time of Jesus’ death and resurrection. It marked the end of the barley harvest and also celebrated the time that God gave the Law to Moses on Mount Sinai. How appropriate that it should also mark the first major ingathering of 1,000s of new believers. The number 3,000 is also significant since in Exodus 32 while Moses is receiving the Law, the people rebel by making a golden calf to worship. As a result 3,000 Jewish people were judged and died; at Pentecost 3,000 Jews from every nation, entered new life, (even though they were guilty!) These were the “first fruits” – another 2,000 had joined them by Acts 4:4.

John the Baptist had said that the One coming after him would “baptise with the Holy Spirit and with Fire” (Matt 3:11 with similar words in the other three Gospels.) All this happened in precise detail at Pentecost. One hundred and twenty men and women gathered together at 9am (the hour of prayer) – too many for a house group, so they probably met in part of the Temple precincts. The Holy Spirit came upon them from the most Holy Baptizer, bringing great purity, joy and a sense of the Presence of God, and also the Power to live in Holiness. The sound of Wind that they heard would have reminded them of Ezekiel speak-

ing “wind” and God’s Spirit (which in Hebrew are the same word – Ruach), over dead dry bones which eventually were raised up to be a mighty army (Ezekiel 37). Fire would have reminded them of Elijah calling down the Fire of God to consume the sacrifice. (1 Kings 18). Jesus’ Resurrection and Sacrifice both heavily emphasised.

In Jeremiah 31:31 the Lord says, “I will put my Law in their minds and write it on their hearts, and I will be their God”.

At Pentecost the Holy Spirit took all the Words of Jesus, every promise, every challenge, and built them into the disciples’ very being. “The Counsellor, the Holy Spirit...will teach you **all** things and will remind you of everything I have said to you”, John 14:26. “When He, the Spirit of Truth comes, He will guide you into **all** Truth,” John 16:13.

When Peter preaches about Jesus, His death and resurrection and the part played by the Jewish people in false accusations – “When the people heard this they were cut to the heart... ”Brothers, what shall we do?” – “Repent and be baptised every one of you into the Name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins and **you** will receive the Gift of the Holy Spirit.” (Acts 2:37- 8) All this fulfils Jesus’ words in John 16:8, “When the Holy Spirit comes He will convict the world of guilt - (because of sin,) righteousness - (because the Cross of Jesus provides an infinite store of mercy and

forgiveness) and of judgment – (because it is fear of God’s judgment that sends us to the Cross to find mercy and peace.)” On the Cross Jesus paid the full price for the penalty of Sin and then rose from death, not only to open up Eternal Life for all who trust Him, but also to prove that the sentence handed down by the Jewish religious leaders, Rome’s political leaders and Hell’s satanic leader – was utterly wrong, unjust and has been triumphantly reversed!

The Holy Spirit comes to make all these a living reality for Christian believers. He makes legitimate withdrawals from an infinite Heavenly bank account and pours them out upon anyone and everyone who believes – **that means us!** The Christian Good News is not about what we do for Jesus, but about what **He has done** for us. (Past tense, a completed work – “It is finished”, paid in full). Many people come to a place where they want to give to God, but first of all we need to **receive** from Him everything He **has** already provide for us, and allow the Holy Spirit to deliver it **all** to us personally. Only then can we serve.

At Pentecost a crowd of 1,000s came running because they heard some amazingly noisy worship. As they came nearer they heard that in among the noise, they could make out words of praise in their own local languages, and in Acts 2:6 -11 it suggests at least fifteen different localities and languages were involved - and all this from “unqualified” Galileans whose native Hebrew and Aramaic came with a strong northern accent! Matt 26:73.

Again this reverses an event in Genesis 11. People (out of pride) tried to build the Tower of Babel, to try to get to Heaven uninvited. The Lord confused their languages and their project failed. At Pentecost the divisions of language were overcome and by miraculous Gifts of Tongues and Interpretations of Tongues, the Lord’s project succeeded.

“What must we do?” they pleaded. Peter Gives three commands:

- Repent, change your mind about your behaviour, be sorry enough to not want to repeat it, renounce it.
- Be baptised in water – not just as a sign of cleansing but to recognise that **in** Christ our old life has died **with** Christ and we also rise to New Life **in** Him. He did not just take our sins to the Cross, He took **us** as well!
- Be baptised in the Holy Spirit, (to empower us to respond to and obey everything that the Lord calls us to do – (inwardly and outwardly.)

So they did, and this was the glorious birthday of the Church.

God gave amazing Gifts at this Birthday party and they responded with worship and praise. Perhaps if we were to unwrap every Gift He has given us, we might be just as joyful and worship Him just as effectively!

**David Nicholls**

# PENTECOST

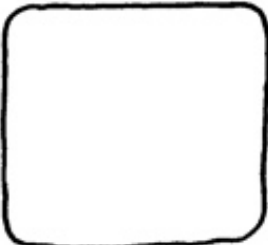
Reading from the Bible

Acts  
chapter  
2

LANGUAGES I  
CAN SPEAK

- 1 \_\_\_\_\_
- 2 \_\_\_\_\_
- 3 \_\_\_\_\_

(CONTINUE OVERLEAF)



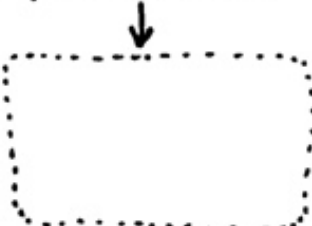
FIRE

Things that fall  
over when it's windy

- 1 \_\_\_\_\_
- 2 \_\_\_\_\_
- 3 \_\_\_\_\_
- 4 \_\_\_\_\_
- 5 \_\_\_\_\_

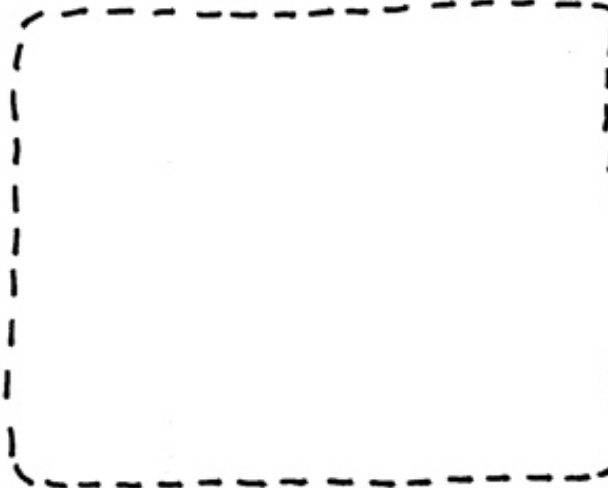
Why the hurricane  
sound, fire and  
different languages?

your ideas here



What seemed to be tongues of  
fire came to rest on each of  
them... a sound like a violent gale...  
they were filled with the Holy  
Spirit and began to speak in  
languages from all around the world...

OR



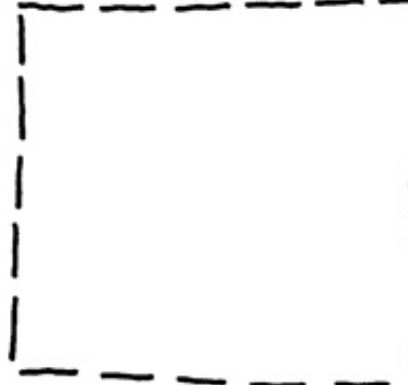
How do you imagine the scene?

I spend time listening to \_\_\_\_\_  
but I would prefer to listen to \_\_\_\_\_

I would like  
to speak to

what happened  
before this story?

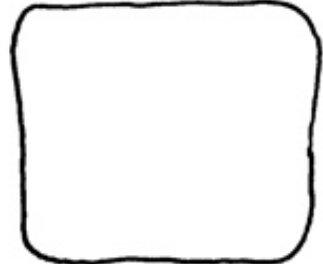
what happened next?



My name is

I prefer:

- Flying a Kite
- sailing
- chasing leaves



My hair on a  
windy day

MARKS OUT OF 10

- Ornate fireplace
- Fire alarm going off
- Fire Engine
- Firefox
- Bonfire night

I would  
like it  
if the  
spirit  
helped  
me to...





# Diary ~ May 2025

Friday	2	8.30am-9am Prayer Meeting 12.30pm-3pm Alpha Course
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>10am Morning Worship</b> 10.30am Kool Kidz 6pm Sunday@six
Tuesday	6	Parent and Toddlers 8pm Home Group
Wednesday	7	9.45am Daytime Home Group 11am-3pm Warm Welcome Space 8pm Home Group
Thursday	8	8pm Home Group
Friday	9	8.30am Prayer Meeting 12.30pm-3pm Alpha Course
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>10am All Age Holy Communion</b> 6pm Sunday@six
Monday	12	9.30am Prayer Meeting
Tuesday	13	Parent and Toddlers 8pm Standing Committee
Wednesday	14	11am-3pm Refresh@WWS 8pm Prayer Meeting
Friday	16	8.30am Prayer Meeting 12.30pm-3pm Alpha Course
Saturday	17	10am-12pm St Mildred's Ladies Meetup
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>10am Morning Worship</b> 10.30am Kool Kidz 12pm APCM and Bring and Share Lunch 6pm Sunday@six
Monday	19	9.30am Prayer Meeting
Tuesday	20	Parent and Toddlers 8pm Home Group

Wednesday	21	9.45am Daytime Home Group 11am-3pm Warm Welcome Space 8pm Home Group
Thursday	22	Home Group
Friday	23	8.30am Prayer Meeting 12.30-3pm Alpha Course
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>10am Holy Communion</b> 10.30am Kool Kidz
Wednesday	28	11am-3pm Warm Welcome Space 8pm Prayer Meeting
Thursday	29	6pm Men's Night Out
Friday	30	8.30am Prayer Meeting

## Diary ~ June 2025

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>10am Morning Worship</b>
Monday	2	9.30am Prayer Meeting
Tuesday	3	Parent and Toddlers 8pm Home Group
Wednesday	4	9.45am Daytime Home Group 11am-3pm Warm Welcome Space 8pm Home Group
Thursday	5	8pm Home Group
Friday	6	8.30am Prayer Meeting 11am-3pm Alpha Course Holy Spirit Day
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>10am All Age Holy Communion</b> 6pm Sunday@six
Monday	9	9.30am Prayer Meeting
Tuesday	10	Parent and Toddlers 8pm PCC Meeting
Wednesday	11	11am-3pm Refresh@WWS 8pm Prayer Meeting

# Diary ~ June 2025

Friday	13	8.30am Prayer Meeting 12.30pm-3pm Alpha Course
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>10am Morning Worship</b> 10.30am Kool Kidz 6pm Sunday@six
Monday	16	9.30am Prayer Meeting
Tuesday	17	Parent and Toddlers 8pm Home Group
Wednesday	18	9.45am Daytime Home Group 11am-3pm Warm Welcome Space 8pm Home Group
Thursday	19	8pm Home Group
Friday	20	8.30am Prayer Meeting
Saturday	21	10am-12pm St Mildred's Ladies Meetup
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>10am Holy Communion</b> 10.30am Kool Kidz 6pm Sunday@six
Monday	23	9.30am Prayer Meeting
Tuesday	24	Parent and Toddlers 8pm Standing Committee
Wednesday	25	11am-3pm Warm Welcome Space 8pm Prayer Meeting
Thursday	26	6pm Men's Night Out
Friday	27	8.30am Prayer Meeting
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>10am Morning Worship</b> 10.30am Kool Kidz 6pm Sunday@six
Monday	30	9.30am Prayer Meeting

# Bible Reading Plan

Week	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Beginning			day			
05/05/25	1 Chronicles 28:1-10	1 Chronicles 28:11-21	1 Chronicles 29:1-13	1 Chronicles 29:14-30	2 Chronicles 1:1-17	2 Chronicles 2:1-18
12/05/25	2 Chronicles 3:1-17	2 Chronicles 4:1-22	2 Chronicles 5:1-14	2 Chronicles 6:1-11	2 Chronicles 6:12-42	2 Chronicles 7:1-22
19/05/25	2 Chronicles 8:1-18	2 Chronicles 9:1-12	2 Chronicles 9:13-31	2 Chronicles 10:1-17	2 Chronicles 10:18-11:17	2 Chronicles 11:18-12:16
26/05/25	2 Chronicles 13:1-22	2 Chronicles 14:1-15	2 Chronicles 15:1-19	2 Chronicles 16:1-14	2 Chronicles 17:1-19	2 Chronicles 18:1-27
02/06/25	2 Chronicles 18:28-19:11	2 Chronicles 20:1-19	2 Chronicles 20:20-30	2 Chronicles 20:31-21:3	2 Chronicles 21:4-20	2 Chronicles 22:1-12
09/06/25	2 Chronicles 23:1-15	2 Chronicles 23:16-24:16	2 Chronicles 24:17-27	2 Chronicles 25:1-13	2 Chronicles 25:14-28	2 Chronicles 26:1-15
16/06/25	2 Chronicles 26:16-23	2 Chronicles 27:1-9	2 Chronicles 28:1-15	2 Chronicles 28:16-27	2 Chronicles 29:1-19	2 Chronicles 29:20-36
23/06/25	2 Chronicles 30:1-12	2 Chronicles 30:13-27	2 Chronicles 31:1-21	2 Chronicles 32:1-19	2 Chronicles 32:20-33	2 Chronicles 33:1-20
30/06/25	2 Chronicles 33:21-34:13	2 Chronicles 34:14-33	2 Chronicles 35:1-19	2 Chronicles 35:20-36:8	2 Chronicles 36:9-23	1 Thessaloni- ans 1:10
07/07/25	1 Thessaloni- ans 2:1-9	1 Thessaloni- ans 2:10-20	1 Thessaloni- ans 3:1-13	1 Thessaloni- ans 4:1-12	1 Thessaloni- ans 4:13-5:11	1 Thessaloni- ans 5:12-28

# Are you lucky enough to pay higher rate income tax?

*giftaid it*

Most people know that if you give money to a charity (such as St Mildred's) and have paid tax on the money that you give, you can make a Gift Aid declaration which allows the charity to reclaim tax on your gift at the rate of 25p for every £1 that you give. That calculation is based on the fact that the standard rate of income tax is 20%. So to have received £1 net of tax, your gross income was £1.25 and HMRC took 20% of £1.25, or 25p.

**But did you know that if you pay tax at a higher rate, typically 40% if your income exceeds £50,271 in a year, then you can claim the extra tax back yourself on the gift? If you don't normally need to fill in a tax return, you may be missing out.**

You can claim the difference between the highest rate of tax you pay, and 20% basic-rate tax. The table shows how much extra you could get in tax relief on a £100 donation.

Tax band	Tax relief you can claim
Higher rate (40%)	£25
Additional rate (45%)	£31.25

That means that if you are a 40% tax payer and give £100, it has actually only cost you £75.

**You could 'pre-donate' the extra tax relief to charity knowing you'll get it back**

Once you've claimed the tax relief due, you can choose what to do with it. Many choose to donate the extra to the charity, so it benefits from Gift Aid twice over. An example...

*You're a higher-rate 40% taxpayer. You donate £100 and Gift Aid it; the charity gets £125 and you can claim £25 back in tax relief. Effectively your donation cost you £75.*

*Now imagine you give the charity £133.33. In this case, the charity can claim £33.33 in Gift Aid, so it gets a total donation of £166.66. Yet if you claim the £33.33 tax relief you're due, your donation effectively cost you the original £100 you planned to donate, but in this scenario the charity's more than £40 better off.*

## How do I claim the extra tax relief on gift-aided charity donations?

If you fill in a self-assessment tax return, you can enter details of all your gift-aided donations in the charitable giving section of the form. If you're new to this, make sure you keep records of all gift-aided charity donations in the future so you have accurate numbers to fill in.

If you don't fill in a self-assessment form, you can call HMRC on 0300 200 3300 and tell them about your charitable donations, so they can adjust your tax code (if you're an employee or receiving a private pension). This will mean you'll have less tax taken off you in future to give you the extra relief you are due. If you're not an employee or receiving a pension, HMRC may issue you a refund.

If you don't have a record of exactly how much you have given to St Mildred's in FY2024-25 and need the figure to reclaim your tax, I'll be happy to confirm the figure for you.

If you have some shares which have gained in value a lot since you acquired them, there is even better tax relief available on a gift to charity, but that's a story for another day – or ask me.

Trevor Gill  
Treasurer

(Thanks to Martyn Lewis of [moneysavingexpert.com](http://moneysavingexpert.com) for some of the information in this article)

# Businesses to pray for



**May  
to  
June**

***Please continue to pray for all our local businesses that they will be blessed in all areas of their lives.***

Favorable Chicken  
Flower Shoppe  
Great British Accountants  
Gokul Chemist  
Golden chicken  
Hither Green Station  
Howden Joinery  
HPS  
Hyperion Records  
Hunters  
Screwfix  
St Winifred's infant / junior  
St Winifred's Nursery  
Streakers Dry Cleaner (Kay)  
Soldo hair  
Tom Brown Florists

Kinleigh, Folkard & Hayward  
Kashi Restaurant  
Lane Tian Chinese restaurant  
Lee Car Services (MINI CAB)  
Lee Launderette  
Lee Pharmacy  
Lee Station  
Lee Tyres  
LADS Barbers (was Joe's Barber)  
Learn Log  
Lewisham Council  
Little Pumpkins  
Little Bananas  
Londis  
TDSA Ltd  
The Crown Tavern Pub



**Wednesdays 14th May and 11th June - 11am - 3pm**

## Refresh

**A warm welcome accompanied by homemade cakes and tea or coffee.**

**A space to work, relax, chat or dabble in a game of Scrabble.**

**A quiet area for reading or prayer.**

**Hope you can join us**



# The Back Page

**Hey Church Family,**

Did you know we have a  
closed Facebook group?

## **St Mildreds SE12 Community**

There are 96 members, but not  
many posters!

It's ok - we are for quality  
over quantity.

Join us there

- say hello

- post and share,

- or just have

another source of info and  
inspiration.