**Services for next week:**

**Hampton-in-Arden**

**Thursday 1st**

10am Communion

**Sunday 4th**

8.15am Common Worship

11am All-Age

6.30pm Healing Communion

**Bickenhill**

**Sunday 4th**

11am Morning Prayer

**Barston**

**Sunday 4th**

9.45am Prayer Time

10.30am All-Age service

**Readings for next week**: Acts 9. 1-6 [7-20], John 21. 1-19

**We pray for:** Bob Middleton, Judy Middleton, David Mort, Mike Beasley, Ann Hall, Tony Worthington, Rene Sumner, Derrick Hill, Angela Jones, Mona Cardall, Dot Barton, Richard Herne, Barrie and Mavis Thompson, Debby Read, David Vickers, Sue Restall and Ronnie Boswell.Rick Smallwood, Paul Pilkington-Birch, Val Sharp, David Scannell, Colin McDonald and Gordon O’Conner. We also pray for the families of those who have died; Celia Heron, Richard Bibbings, Karoline Dearden, David Howells, Ivan Eley, June Hand, John Vaughn, Elizabeth Pakeman, Andrew Sumner, Roger Grain, George Colin Macnair and Irene Sutton. If you would like people to be prayed for do let us know at [office@hamptoninardenchurch.org.uk](mailto:office@hamptoninardenchurch.org.uk))



**Hampton. Barston. Bickenhill.**

**Three Churches Together.**

**Sharing God’s Love, Growing Faith and Worshipping Together.**

**27th April 2025- 2nd Easter**

Acts 5.27-32, John 20. 19-31

**Thought for the week**.

Thomas

Have you ever been afraid to ask a question? Felt that you were the only person in the room who didn’t understand. Maybe you were distracted at the crucial moment, or hadn’t done the homework, or

had been afraid to put your hand up.

Thomas was like that. He doesn’t feature very much in the gospel story. We don’t know his family, or his trade, or where he came from. Until after the crucifixion, when the disciples are hiding in the Upper Room, and Jesus appears amongst them. Thomas says that he won’t believe until he has seen the evidence. He is not afraid to ask the question, and from now on he is referred to as Doubting Thomas.

But Thomas’ reaction is so crucial, because he falls before Jesus and answers, “My Lord and my God” The other disciples have recognised Jesus as “Lord,” but not as “God.”. In his doubts, he finds the real

truth.

May that encourage us to seek, to question, to be honest, and to find the real truth, that Jesus is God. **RM**

**Collect**

Risen Christ,

for whom no door is locked, no entrance barred:

open the doors of our hearts,

that we may seek the good of others

and walk the joyful road of sacrifice and peace,

to the praise of God the Father.

**Hampton**

* We’d like to offer a huge welcome to Phelim O’Hare who joins us for our 11am service this morning.
* **Bible Study** this week will be taken by Mary Charlton. It will begin tonight (27th April) at 6.30pm in the vestry and we will be looking at the book of the Acts of the Apostles, specifically Chapter 1 from verse 12 onwards.
* **Advance notice that Bishop Michael will be visiting for our 11am service on 11th May. A reminder that JAM children’s group will be running that morning, too.**
* Our first **100 club draw** took place on Thursday at the morning service. Congratulations go to our winners; 1st prize £50.00 No. 47 Nick Johnson, 2nd prize £25.00 No. 56 Jackie Jennings and 3rd prize £15 No. 21 Heidi Hill. The next draw will take place on Thursday 22nd May after the 10am Communion service at church.
* This year our **Ascension Day service** will be held at St. Peter’s Church in Balsall Common at 7.30pm on 29th May.
* **Tea and Toast** toddler group will be meeting again on Friday 2nd May at 9am. Open to all pre-schoolers and babies and their carers. No charge but donations welcome!
* You may have noticed our **new foodbank collection bin** in the link room, kindly provided by the Community Essentials Foodbank. Please consider adding one or two items to your weekly shop.

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**Barston**

* Tuesday 29th April **No Hobby House or Tea Club** as it is the 5th Tuesday.
* Thursday 1st May **Prayer Time** at 9am for St. Swithin’s House in the house.
* Thursday 1st May **BELL RINGING** at 7pm. Please pray for the team as they practice for the up and coming wedding on 23rd May of Jake and Laura.
* May 3rd **All Sorts Sale** 11 till 2 pm in Institute. This was a huge success last year. Part of Barston Association. Charity Fund Raising. First event of the year. Lots of really good items on sale. It raised nearly £2000 last year.
* **Bring and Share lunch** on 4th May at 12.30pm.
* May 10th. **Big Breakfast.** Please put the date in your diary (note it’s the second Saturday in May) and invite your family and friends. From 8.30am at a cost of £10 for adults and children half price. Hope to see you there.
* Future date for the diary is **our APCM which will be held on May 25th** after the morning service at around 12.30pm. This needs prayer too. We elect churchwardens and PCC. Pelase endeavour to come to this very important meeting in the life of our church.
* The **prayer diary for May** is available today. Thank you Martin and Linda for writing this month. Prayer is the bedrock of our church so please use this as a tool to aid your prayer.
* Gordon O Conner will be having an MRI scan on 2nd May followed by consultation with his surgeon re ongoing treatment. Please remember them both in this time of waiting.
* We give thanks for the safe return of Mary and Richard after their holiday in South Africa. We thank God that the awful train crash they were involved in did not result in loss of life – only mostly minor injuries.

**Bickenhill**

* Our annual APCM will be held **today** after the service. Everyone is very welcome to attend.