



Below are details about who to contact for information and support.

Church Office Manager: Lisa Scott Tel 825533

Email office@burphamchurch.org.uk

(Office hours are Monday - Thursday 9.30am - 1pm)

The office staff are the initial point of contact for church events, weddings and funerals.

Vicar: Rev James Hanson Tel 07821 255661

Email vicar@burphamchurch.org.uk (Day of rest Friday)

Intergenerational Minister: Carol Lowries

Email IGMinister@burphamchurch.org.uk (Days of rest Friday & Saturday)

Churchwarden: Susan Denton

Email warden1@burphamchurch.org.uk

Licensed Lay Minister: William Lowries Tel 01483 573327

Email wlowries@gmail.com

Pastoral Assistant: Rob Gibbons Tel 07379 976581

Email robertcpgibbons@gmail.com

Parish Safeguarding Officer: Ann Wigmore

Email safeguarding@burphamchurch.org.uk

Preschool Contact: Tel 07354 444958

Email preschooladmin@burphamchurch.org.uk

SUNDAY'S READINGS AND INFORMATION

24TH MAY 2026

PENTECOST

9.15am Holy Communion at CHS

10.15am Coffee in hall

10.45am Holy Communion with Sunday Club at CHS

3.00pm Lego Brick Church at CHS



Large print weekly sheets are available at the back of church

Next week	9.15am	10.00 Service Warden	10.00 Prayers	10.00 Readings	Sunday Club	Screen Sound
Sun 30 May	Church Breakfast	Jane A	Jane A	Henry S	N/A	Renny M Lewis W



Collect & Readings 24th May 2026

Holy Spirit, sent by the Father, ignite in us your holy fire; strengthen your children with the gift of faith, revive your Church with the breath of love, and renew the face of the earth, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Acts 16:6-10 NIV-UK

⁶ Paul and his companions travelled throughout the region of Phrygia and Galatia, having been kept by the Holy Spirit from preaching the word in the province of Asia. ⁷ When they came to the border of Mysia, they tried to enter Bithynia, but the Spirit of Jesus would not allow them to. ⁸ So they passed by Mysia and went down to Troas. ⁹ During the night Paul had a vision of a man of Macedonia standing and begging him, 'Come over to Macedonia and help us.' ¹⁰ After Paul had seen the vision, we got ready at once to leave for Macedonia, concluding that God had called us to preach the gospel to them.

Colossians 2:6-15 NIV-UK

⁶ So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live your lives in him, ⁷ rooted and built up in him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness. ⁸ See to it that no one takes you captive through hollow and deceptive philosophy, which depends on human tradition and the elemental spiritual forces of this world rather than on Christ. ⁹ For in Christ all the fullness of the Deity lives in bodily form, ¹⁰ and in Christ you have been brought to fullness. He is the head over every power and authority. ¹¹ In him you were also circumcised with a circumcision not performed by human hands. Your whole self ruled by the flesh was put off when you were circumcised by Christ, ¹² having been buried with him in baptism, in which you were also raised with him through your faith in the working of God, who raised him from the dead. ¹³ When you were dead in your sins and in the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made you alive with Christ. He forgave us all our sins, ¹⁴ having cancelled the charge of our legal indebtedness, which stood against us and condemned us; he has taken it away, nailing it to the cross. ¹⁵ And having disarmed the powers and authorities, he made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them by the cross.

This is the word of the Lord: Thanks be to God

What does it look like to you to live well together? Relationships are rarely easy in life, and I am sure we can all reflect on the ones that have been especially hard. During last week's clergy conference, I enjoyed many good relationships and conversations. One of which was about the subject of formation – our growth into Christ-likeness. In this conversation we filled two hours in rich synergy about what it means to support new seekers, Ordinands, Curates and learners in their walk with God, but also their own formation into Christ's vessels and ministers in building these Christ-like relationships. I was led to a PhD thesis on the reasons why Vicar and Curate relationships go wrong far too often. A depressing read, but the tennet of our conversation was how we might help the wider church prepare both new Curates and their training Vicars for this intense "arranged marriage" relationship and both thrive in ministry, but also be able to shape each other's character. You guessed it, the main reason the relationships break-down is lack of character knowledge (self-awareness), and lack of willingness to keep growing steeply. In my previous church, I had a brilliant relationship born on trust that was framed around that verse in proverbs calling us to be like "iron sharpening iron". It has stuck with me, this need for continual growth in character and walk with Jesus as the bedrocks of our ability to do relationships well. Even after four days spent on "transforming conflict" courses, I would still suggest that forming, shaping and moulding my character more into Jesus own one is the best path I can take - being sharpened by the Holy Spirit. As we read afresh these wonderful verses in 1 Peter 3 (8-16), we see afresh the calls on our lives to be sympathetic, humble, harmonious, compassionate, good, peaceful and like-minded (with Jesus). I wonder whether one or more of them leaps at you, that the Lord wishes to give you the gift of, or shape you further in. Keep praying and noticing when he does work there. So much of what the world says seems to denigrate these values to weakness, yet they are so much more our strengths. Jesus models for us how to live well in a life where he was so often persecuted, chased out of town, attacked, beaten, slandered and ultimately hung. In all he said and did, we see his character and virtues shine through. Pursue them, and great relationships with each other will surely be the by-product. Blessings, Rev James

Change of service time

Sunday 31st May, will be a **10am joint service** with breakfast served before the service at 9.15am. *Please sign up.*

There will be no 9.15 or 10.45am service.

Drop In Thursdays:

Coffee and Company, 10.30am. All Welcome!

Hear Here clinic runs 1st Thursday of the month.



Tuesday Prayers 10 -10.30am at CHS

An opportunity to pray together. Tea & Coffee available. All Welcome.



The Bible Course—NEW DATE

An excellent free 7 week course for everyone.

Grasping God's big story in 7 weeks.

Starting on Monday 8th June, 7.30 - 9pm at CHS.

Sign up on the sheet in church or contact office@burphamchurch.org.uk

Prayer Central

Join together as church in monthly prayer on

Wednesday 3rd June, 7pm at St. Luke's



*CHS - Church of the Holy Spirit



Thank you to everyone who helped, supported, and attended the Preschool Fair. We're thrilled that around £600 was raised! Your generosity, time, and support made the event a success, and only possible with your support. **Thank you to all involved!**

Upcoming Services at CHS & St. Luke's

Sunday 31st May

9.15am Church Breakfast

10.00am All Church Holy Communion

Thursday 4th June

10am Midweek Communion

Sunday 7th June

9.15am Holy Communion

10.45am Intergenerational Service

Taste Of The World Bring & Share Lunch

Join us on **Sunday 14th June at 12noon** for a wonderful opportunity to chat, catch up, enjoy good food and share great company. **Bring a dish** from anywhere around the world and enjoy fellowship together as we celebrate different cultures and cuisines. **Please sign up on the sheet.**



Noah's Ark Toddlers

Wednesdays, 9.30 -11am
at CHS - **Term time**
Starts back on 3rd June.