

**Second Reading (Continued)**

'Let us also go, that we may die with him.'<sup>17</sup> On his arrival, Jesus found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb for four days.<sup>18</sup> Now Bethany was less than two miles from Jerusalem,<sup>19</sup> and many Jews had come to Martha and Mary to comfort them in the loss of their brother.<sup>20</sup> When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went out to meet him, but Mary stayed at home.<sup>21</sup> 'Lord,' Martha said to Jesus, 'if you had been here, my brother would not have died.'<sup>22</sup> But I know that even now God will give you whatever you ask.'<sup>23</sup> Jesus said to her, 'Your brother will rise again.'<sup>24</sup> Martha answered, 'I know he will rise again in the resurrection at the last day.'<sup>25</sup> Jesus said to her, 'I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die;<sup>26</sup> and whoever lives by believing in me will never die. Do you believe this?'<sup>27</sup> 'Yes, Lord,' she replied, 'I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, who is to come into the world.'<sup>28</sup> After she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary aside. 'The Teacher is here,' she said, 'and is asking for you.'<sup>29</sup> When Mary heard this, she got up quickly and went to him.<sup>30</sup> Now Jesus had not yet entered the village, but was still at the place where Martha had met him.<sup>31</sup> When the Jews who had been with Mary in the house, comforting her, noticed how quickly she got up and went out, they followed her, supposing she was going to the tomb to mourn there.<sup>32</sup> When Mary reached the place where Jesus was and saw him, she fell at his feet and said, 'Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.'<sup>33</sup> When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who had come along with her also weeping, he was deeply moved in spirit and troubled.<sup>34</sup> 'Where have you laid him?' he asked. 'Come and see, Lord,' they replied.<sup>35</sup> Jesus wept.<sup>36</sup> Then the Jews said, 'See how he loved him!'<sup>37</sup> But some of them said, 'Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?'<sup>38</sup> Jesus, once more deeply moved, came to the tomb. It was a cave with a stone laid across the entrance.<sup>39</sup> 'Take away the stone,' he said. 'But, Lord,' said Martha, the sister of the dead man, 'by this time there is a bad odour, for he has been there four days.'<sup>40</sup> Then Jesus said, 'Did I not tell you that if you believe, you will see the glory of God?'<sup>41</sup> So they took away the stone. Then Jesus looked up and said, 'Father, I thank you that you have heard me.<sup>42</sup> I knew that you always hear me, but I said this for the benefit of the people standing here, that they may believe that you sent me.'<sup>43</sup> When he had said this, Jesus called in a loud voice, 'Lazarus, come out!'<sup>44</sup> The dead man came out, his hands and feet wrapped with strips of linen, and a cloth round his face. Jesus said to them, 'Take off the grave clothes and let him go.'

**Fair Trade**

The PCC are so grateful for everyone's contributions towards the refreshments since we started offering tea and coffee again after the morning services; whether that is donations of money or donations of tea, coffee, milk or biscuits. As a result, we have been able to contribute over £200 for the Flush Fund since restarting the refreshments. Thank you all.

However, to be classed as a Fair Trade Registered Church, (which we wish to continue to be), we are required to offer Fair Trade tea, coffee and biscuits along with any other Fair Trade items available, both in Church and in the Church Hall.

The PCC appreciates that Fair Trade items are more expensive than other similar goods, and that therefore they may not be affordable for some people. The PCC hopes that some people will still be able to continue to donate items as they have been doing, but that they now limit them to Fair Trade items. Please do not worry if you cannot continue to do so. There is no expectation on anyone to donate items for the refreshments, but we hope everyone will still continue donating money towards the refreshments each Sunday in aid of the Flush Fund.

Obviously, if items for the refreshments need to be purchased because they have not been donated, then these will need to be paid for from the proceeds that otherwise would have gone into the Flush Fund. Hopefully this will be kept to a minimum.

Thank you all for your continued support and understanding.

**Platinum Jubilee Celebrations**

The Queen's Platinum Jubilee is being celebrated over the long weekend from Thursday 2nd June to Sunday 5th June, with the Thursday and Friday being the Bank Holidays.

As Sunday 5th June is the Patronal Festival at the Church of The Holy Spirit, there will be a Team Service at 10am at Southway, followed by a Bring and Share lunch, or alternatively bring your own picnic lunch. Hopefully a Cream Tea may also be available afterwards.

There will be a service of Evening Worship at St Mary's that evening at 6.30pm.

St Mary's are planning on holding an event a bit later in the Summer as a combined Jubilee Celebration and Summer Fundraising event. More details to follow.

**Rotas**

The new rotas for the period June to August are now being prepared. Please let Andy have any dates you are not available for reading, intercessions or sidesperson during those months. Thank you.

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