



St Margaret's Church

Together we aim to: Worship God, Proclaim Jesus, Grow in the Spirit and Serve the World

In Contact

17th May 2026

Acts 1. 1 -14

AFTER JESUS' ASCENSION

Luke 24.50-53



Have you ever had to cope without someone you used to rely on? Bereavement often leaves a husband or wife with unfamiliar tasks because their spouse always did certain things. It might be driving the car, dealing with finance, cooking or DIY.

At work, a colleague might leave and you have new responsibilities. The ascension of Jesus left his disciples to cope without Him. What lay ahead for them?

Waiting:

Jesus told them to do this. They were told to “wait for the promise of the Father” (Acts 1:4). Someone once described waiting as ‘an expression of personal inability to bring about progress in the situation’. Checking your watch won’t make the bus come any sooner! Jesus’ disciples thought that it was the time when He would set up an earthly kingdom. They said: “is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?” But the promise of the Father was the Holy Spirit who came at Pentecost. We can wait for what we think God is going to do, but it is our preconceived idea rather than His plan.

Looking:

The disciples were looking up because Jesus had just left them. At His ascension He disappeared into a cloud into heaven. But two men in white robes asked: “why do you stand looking up towards heaven?” They had experienced three years of being with Jesus, seen Him die then experienced some appearances of the risen Christ. Were they hoping for things to continue as they had been in the past? We can look at how God has worked in the past and think he will continue to work in that way. In contrast St Margaret’s verse for this year is “I am about to do a new thing” (Isaiah 43:19)

Praying:

The quotation above: ‘Waiting is an expression of personal inability’ continues with: ‘an expression of God’s ability to hear and help’. Jesus’ disciples expressed this as they met with some women and with Mary, the mother of Jesus and His family (Acts 1:13-14).

In God’s time they experienced the presence of the Holy Spirit. Praying on our own is good. But like those early disciples it is good to meet with other disciples to pray together. It can be a time of waiting to see what God has to say to us and discover that He can do what our inability cannot do.



Bible Verse for 2026: *Isaiah 43.19, Philippians 3.14*

I am about to do a new thing... Press on towards the goal!

This week- Sunday 17th May 2026:

10.30am Holy Communion: Alan Pugmire will be speaking on “**After Jesus’ ascension**” Luke 24: 50-53 and Acts 1: 1-14

18th May 7-9pm here at St. Margaret's. Diocesan **Equip** roadshow which supports and resources the ministry with those under 18 and their families. Open & free to anyone passionate about faith with children, young people, and families.

Next Week 24th May 2026:

10.30am Pentecost Sunday celebrations: Matt will be speaking about the Holy Spirit.

CW Communion at 3pm

Workparty: Church grounds Saturday 30th May 10am-12pm. To be cancelled if weather is bad.

May 17th – 23rd Please Pray for:

- People living in Green End Road & Broadlea Road.
- Matt at St Thomas's CofE Primary on Tuesday talking about Pentecost.
- Food Bank trustees meeting on Tuesday involving Matt & Jane Franklin.
- Matt & Steph preparing for the All Age Pentecost service next Sunday (24th).
- Becks (manager) & Helen (project worker) working for Food Bank.
- All those affected by deadly attacks on Christians in Nigeria.
- TearFund community training work bringing peace in Burundi.
- Pray for GCSE, A-levels and University students doing exams

Looking Ahead:

CONFIRMATION: 1st June 7pm here. There are 3 preparation sessions: 6.30– 7.45 pm on Sunday 10th, 17th and 24th May. In the Errwood Room, Parish Centre.

Parish lunch– 7th June to celebrate with those recently confirmed. Bring and share. Details to follow.

Answers to prayer: We want to celebrate what God is doing amongst us, however smaller a thing it seems. Please send to revmattburnage@gmail.com or M19stmargarets@gmail.com.

Falconer Home special appeal: The home finds itself in financial difficulty further compounded by hospital fees for Simon (the Orphanage Manager). **If you would like to make a one-off donation, please use one of the envelopes at the back of church. Thank you** to all those people who took a bag for the children at the Falconer Home. Could you please return your completed bag to Sue and Duncan Stansfield by the end of May. They can also take the following, unused, items: Tennis Balls, Coffee, Tea Bags, Paracetamol, Infant Calpol Liquid, Plasters, AAA Batteries, Bamboo Toothbrushes, Toothpaste, Soap, Pencils, Chalks, Coloured Pencils, Hair Bands/Bobbles, Skipping Ropes. Thank you.

Welcome Team- if you can help, see Wardens or Matt. We also need help with new people joining the Easy Worship rota.



Burnage Tesco, Burnage Library
(when open) and Asda Reddish

SHOPPING LIST: Please concentrate on the following - Tinned Peas/ Sweet corn/Carrots, Tinned Potatoes, UHT Milk, Spaghetti hoops, Pasta sauce .