

## HOW DOES GOD KNOW WE LOVE HIM?

### Paul Murray reflects on John 14:15

We know that God loves us because Scripture tells us in **Romans 5:8** that **God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.**

But how does God know that we love Him? The seventeenth century poet Robert Herrick said this, "In God's commands, ne'er ask the reason why; Let thy obedience be the best reply."

He must have been well aware of Jesus' words in **John 14:15-17a** "**If you love Me, keep My commands. And I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Counsellor to be with you forever. He is the Spirit of truth.**"

Often we view obedience as an onerous chore. It is even regarded by some as optional. This was not the view of the Psalmist who said in **Psalms 119:129** **Your statutes are wonderful; therefore I obey them.**

Let's leave the final word with Jesus: **"Anyone who loves Me will obey My teaching. My Father will love them and we will come to them and make our home with them."** (John 14:23).

Let's ask ourselves: *Would we be happy right now for our King and our God to live in our home? Is it time to switch on our spiritual vacuums - dispatching the dust of disobedience - and show God that we love Him?*



### Contact Information :

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Church website  
[www.waterortonparishchurch.org](http://www.waterortonparishchurch.org)

Most of our services can be attended in person or on Zoom.

Zoom meeting ID: 508 367 3910

If you have missed a Sunday or Wednesday service, the sermons (and some services) can be accessed on the website under 'Media Library'. Sermons are deleted after 4 months, while services are only available for 2 months.

In May, Paul will be running an ultra marathon in aid of Birmingham City Mission. If you would like to sponsor him, please follow the link below.  
[https://www.stewardship.org.uk/pages/Ultra\\_for\\_BCM](https://www.stewardship.org.uk/pages/Ultra_for_BCM)

For more information about the event, use the link below.  
<https://keswickmountainfestival.co.uk/buy-tickets/adidas-terrex-50k-ultra-trail-marathon/>



The Parish Church  
of Water Orton

Sunday  
10th May

# Welcome to Saint Peter & Saint Paul's

Our Vision:

To prepare a community to meet the Christ

Our Mission:

To worship God, grow believers and make believers

Our Values:

Word, Worship, Welcome and Wisdom



# 10th May – Sixth Sunday of Easter

## Today's Readings:

Acts 17: 22-31

John 14: 15-21

## This Week's Collect Prayer

Risen Christ,  
by the lakeside you renewed  
your call to your disciples:  
help your Church to obey  
your command and draw the nations  
to the fire of your love,  
to the glory of God the Father.  
Amen

## Welcoming Prayer

God of mission,  
who alone brings growth to your  
church, send your Holy Spirit to give vi-  
sion to our planning, wisdom to our ac-  
tions and power to our witness. Help our  
church to grow in numbers, in spiritual  
commitment to you and in service  
to our local community.  
Through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen

## Church Weekend Away 10th-12th July

There is a list at the back of church with the names of all participants. Please note that payments need to be in by the end of May. If you need help with the cost, please speak to Paul or Judith.

## Today

9.00 am Holy Communion  
11.00 am Contemporary Worship  
(with children's groups)  
3.30 pm Quest Family at the Link

## Next Sunday 17th May

9.00 am Holy Communion  
11.00 am Contemporary Worship

## Please pray...

### For the residents of St Peter's Close

### For the work of Christian Aid...

God of justice and mercy,  
We cry out for a world where we are  
treated as equals, where no one is oppressed and  
dignity belongs to all people. Break the chains of  
injustice. Lift up the weak, the humble and the pow-  
erful. Make love our foundation. Let peace and jus-  
tice flow like a river that never runs dry.



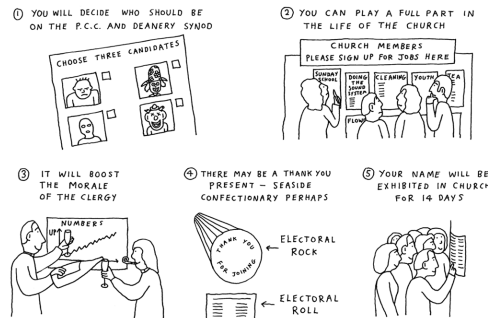
Amen

"...let justice roll like a river, righteousness like a never-failing stream." Amos 5: 24

## Please sign up...

## THE ELECTORAL ROLL

REASONS TO JOIN IT



CartoonChurch.com

This week...



Christian Aid Week

## Monday

11.00 am Funeral of Elizabeth Reynolds

## Tuesday

9.30-11.30 am The church is open for the Food Bank  
10.00 am Morning Prayer- Common Worship on Zoom & in church  
7.30 pm PCC in the Robert Lloyd Room

## Wednesday

10.00 am Holy Communion in church and on Zoom  
12.00 noon Funeral of Olwyn at Woodlands Crematorium, followed by...  
1.00 pm Celebration Service in church for Olwyn's life  
7.30 pm Music Group  
9.00 pm Compline on Zoom

## Thursday

9.00-10.00 am Contemporary Prayer Meeting at the vicarage  
7.30 pm Ascension Day Service in church

## Friday

12.00 for 12.30 Meet & Eat at The Link

## Saturday

10.00 am The church is open for the Food Bank & for private prayer

## Future Dates

Saturday 23rd May at 5.30 pm –Thrive Social at the vicarage

Saturday 30th May at 11.00 am – APCM in church

Paul is on leave from the 15th - 29th May