

## Sunday Eucharist at 10am in May

May 5th	Revd Jackie Fox
May 12th	Revd Martin Bull
May 19th	Revd Ken. Crossley
May 26th	Revd Ken Crossley

### Silence-Reflection-Compline:

**Wednesday 8th 8pm-9pm** an hour of silent prayer and reflection in the chapel. Concludes with Compline.

**PSL - Wednesday 15th May: 2.30pm Remember it means: Ponder, Share, Learn.** During Lent we become a 'Lent Group' reading Gemma Simmonds Book: The Way of Ignatius- A Prayer Journey through Lent. We didn't reach the end - so agreed that we would complete our study before starting something else: Meet at 2.30pm at 21 Magdalens Close. With thanks to Martin and Angela Bull.

### The Magdalen Fellowship

Meets for a time of silence and reflection every Monday morning except Bank Holidays: starting at 10:00 am. Our monthly Eucharist and Service of Healing will be held on Monday, 13th May. For more information contact Anne-Marie Tarter on 602129. And for details of Quiet Day away on 3rd June.

### Sunday Readings as set in the lectionary

May 5th	Acts 9.1-6	Rev. 5.11-end	John 21.1-19
May 12th	Acts 9.36-end	Rev. 7.9-end	John 10. 22-30
May 19th	Acts 11.1-18	Rev. 21.1-6	John 13.31-35
May 26th	Acts 16.9-15	Rev 21.10, 22-22.5	John 5.1-9

**To contact us:**                      **Revd Jackie Fox**                      **603698**

**We have a website:**      <http://stmarymagdalenripon.org/>

## Chapel of St Mary Magdalen Newsletter May 2019



Writing this during Easter Week, it seems that the year has gone by quickly. I am sure we say that each year. Each year we also feel that things are not 'getting better', at least not in the ways we anticipate.

Easter this year brought home the horror and awfulness of crucifixion as we saw pictures and heard reports of the attacks in Sri Lanka. We celebrated and mourned at the same time...not glossing over the 'evil that humanity is capable of'. Part of a

prayer that Canon Ailsa used at the funeral of Colin Harrison has some comfort for us:

*'We remember O Lord the slenderness of the thread which separates life from death and the suddenness with which it can be broken. Help us to remember that on both sides of that division we are surrounded by your love. Persuade our hearts that when our dear ones die neither we nor they are parted from you. In you may we find our peace and in you be united with them in the glorious body of Christ, who ash burst the bonds of death and is alive for evermore, our Saviour and theirs for ever and ever. Amen'*

We live in the confidence that our Risen Lord has made a difference to us all. Go forward in hope and faith..to love and serve The Lord.

## Chapel Opening

We have been so grateful to the Friends of the Chapel. Over the years they have not only raised money for the chapel but have also organised a rota of 'Chapel sitters' to keep the building open. Last year marked a change. As the Friends found it harder to maintain this.. Anne Priestley took on the role of trying to be sure that the Chapel was still open at regular times. If you would like to be part of this please contact us.

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**Poetry for this month from R.S.Thomas: perhaps highlighting the value of our having the Chapel open:**

### The Empty Church

They laid this stone trap  
for him, enticing him with candles,  
as though he would come. Like some huge moth

out of the darkness to beat there.  
Ah, he had burned himself  
before in the human flame  
and escaped, leaving the reasonn  
torn. He will not come any more

to our lure. Why then, do I kneel still  
striking my prayers on a stone  
heart? Is it in hope one  
of them will ignite yet and throw  
on its illumined walls the shadow  
of someone greater than I can understand.

### Folk Tale. (

Prayers like gravel  
flung at the sky's  
window, hoping ti attract  
the loved one's  
attention. But without  
visible plaits to let  
down for the believer  
to climb up,  
to what purpose open  
that far casement?  
I would  
have refrained long since  
but that peering once  
through my locked fingers  
I thought that I detected  
the movement of a curtain.

R.S.Thomas was a priest in parishes in Wales, in a somewhat stark area around Aberdaron..said to be the last village before Ireland.