



RBC Newsletter

May 2026

Dear Church Family,

Last month we held our Church AGM, where we looked back over the year of 2025, and gave thanks to God for all He has done, guiding us and providing for us during that year. At that meeting a presentation was made to thank Geoff and Carolyn Haynes for their long service to the church, as Geoff stepped down from being a Trustee, after 16 years serving here in that role. Geoff will continue most of his other roles in church life and the Trustees will still be able to benefit from his wisdom and experience as he will continue to serve as an Advisory Elder. Also at the AGM, new trustees were elected– Keith Haward being re-elected to serve another term, and David Archer being elected as a new Trustee, both with unanimous support. Marguerite Kenward and Sally Moore were re-affirmed as Secretary and Treasurer. Please continue to pray for our church leaders, who work so hard, and without whose willingness to serve, the church would not be the loving, vibrant fellowship we all appreciate so much.

Pentecost falls in May this year, and, as in recent years, we will be celebrating the birthday of the world-wide church with our brothers and sisters from Churches Together in Rye & District. We read in Acts 2 that it was at the Jewish festival of Pentecost that God poured out His Holy Spirit upon Jesus' disciples, when they were praying together in an upper room. This amazing event was like a mighty wind sweeping through them, shaking the room, and causing what looked like tongues of fire to appear on their heads. They were enabled to speak in different languages and went out into the crowds praising God. As those who observed were asking what was happening, Peter preached to the crowd, and in that one day 3000 came to faith and were baptised. And so the church was born. Since that day the Holy Spirit has empowered, equipped and enabled many, many Christians to live the life of faith and to pass on the Good News of the Gospel. As Christians today, we have all benefitted from, and indeed rely on this amazing gift from God, and so the Bible tells us to keep on being filled with the Holy Spirit. Pentecost is a great time to praise God for this blessing, and also to seek a fresh anointing of the Spirit to refresh and renew us in our lives of faith.

Some dates for your diaries:-

The monthly **Saturday Prayers Zoom meeting** will take place at **9am on Saturday 2nd May**
Zoom details will be sent out in the usual way.

Our **Encountering God** evening will take place on **Tuesday 5th May at 7.30pm**. All are welcome to this lovely informal time of praise and prayer, and as usual, we will have no house-groups that week. House-groups will re-start the following week.

Churches Together in Rye & District will be holding a **Week of Prayer for Christian Unity from Monday 18th- Friday 22nd May**. Any or every day that week, all are welcome to attend a half hour meeting for prayer and discussion, using this year's resources from Churches Together in Britain and Ireland, which are entitled "*One body, One Spirit*". Meetings are as follows: - Mon 18th at RBC led by the Quakers; Tuesday 19th at RBC led by the Baptists; Wed 20th at St Anthony's led by the Catholics; Thursday 21st at St Mary's led by The Anglicans; Friday 22nd at St Mary's centre led by the Methodists. The week concludes with joint worship on Pentecost Sunday (see below).

Engage/Connect (our pub fellowship meals for men and ladies) will take place this month on **Thursday 21st May at 7pm**. Connect ladies will meet at the King's Head, Udimore, and Engage men at the Robin Hood, Icklesham. Please give your names to Ian or Penny if you would like to attend.

On **Saturday 23rd May from 2-4pm** we will have our next **Messy Church**, where activities and crafts will be focussed on the theme of Pentecost and the coming of the Holy Spirit. Please do invite along any young families you know, and if you can help on the day or beforehand by preparing some of the craft activities , please let Marguerite know as soon as possible.

On **Pentecost Sunday (24th May)** we will share in a **United morning worship service with Holy Communion at RBC at 10.45am**, together with our brothers and sisters from Churches Together in Rye & District. Do come along and enjoy worshipping together on this very special day.

May the Lord continue to bless each and every one of you
as you serve Him both in church, and out in the world.

Your Pastor & sister in Christ,

Fiona