



St Margaret's Church

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

In Contact

3rd May 2026

1 Corinthians 15. 50-58

**11 Disciples in Galilee &
The Victory over death**

Matthew 28. 16-20



At a funeral this year, the finale of Tchaikovsky's 1812 overture was requested because the deceased loved how dramatic this piece is. It picks up musical themes and takes them to a crescendo. The French national anthem tune can be heard as Napoleon's defeated army retreat from Russia and then there are church bells ringing in joy and real canons going off in celebration. It also has several false endings to tease the listener. I loved the choice of this piece.

In both of our readings today we have glorious finales. We have the last few verses of Matthew's Gospel (Matthew 28.16-20) and the end of Paul's discourse through chapter 15 of 1 Corinthians on the resurrection. This chapter represents the most concentrated reflection on the importance of the resurrection in the Bible and ends with a quote from Hosea 13.14 which leads Paul to declare: ⁵⁶ "The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. ⁵⁷ But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ" (1 Corinthians 15.56-57). Because of the resurrection we can know without doubt that death is not the end and sin has no hold on us. In Jesus, we have the victory. This is the crescendo but not the end of the chapter as he exhorts us to "be steadfast, immovable, always excelling in the work of the Lord, because you know that in the Lord your labour is not in vain" (v58). Because of the resurrection and the victory that comes through it, we should not be sitting back and thinking 'job done'. No! We should be spurred on to excel in our work for the Lord: sharing His love, speaking His Good News and building His kingdom in Burnage.

The finale of Matthew's Gospel takes place in Galilee (which Roger reminded us last week was the last time it features as a venue for God's activity in the Bible). Here the Risen Lord Jesus meets with the 11 disciples and others and delivers his final words. In a similar way that Paul declares the victory of Jesus, Jesus himself sets down clearly that "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me" (Matt 28.18). Because He has died and been raised to life, it is clear that Jesus has complete authority over both heaven and earth. His is the Kingdom, the power and glory forever. Because He wants us to pray "Your kingdom come", He needs us to be active in making this so. Jesus commands us to "Go!" He very specifically tells us that this is to make disciples, not just through baptism but also through teaching. How do we do this? By coming alongside those who do not yet believe or are 'young' Christians, and excelling in the work of the Lord.

The crescendo of this finale in Matthew's Gospel is to link the name given to the infant Jesus (1.23) with the resurrected Christ "I am with you always, to the end of the age" (28.20). Emmanuel, God is with us, becomes Jesus is with us - ALWAYS! Wow!



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 3rd May 2026:

Holy Communion Service: at 10.30am. Rev Matt Calladine will be speaking on the theme: **'The Eleven Disciples and Jesus' victory over death'**

Prayer for growth at 7pm

Next Week 10th May 2026:

Morning Worship Service: at 10.30am. Tony Hardy will be speaking on the theme: **'One Disciple.'**

BCP Communion at 3pm

May 3rd – May 9th, Please Pray for:

- People living in Northbank Gardens, Briarfield Road & Burnbray Avenue.
- Matt attending Deanery Roadshow on Tuesday.
- Matt meeting the new Church Wardens on Wednesday.
- New Alpha Course starting in HMP M/c on Wednesday.
- New parents to come to ABC.
- Church in Syria to stand as a beacon of hope for those suffering for their faith.
- All who mourn the sudden death of Walter Toro, Anglican Bishop of Bolivia

Looking Ahead:

Ascension Day Communion Service: 6.30pm at St. Paul's Heaton Moor, Thursday 14th May. Matt will be preaching.

Pentecost Sunday: 24th May. Celebrations at 10.30am

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.

CONFIRMATION: 1st June 7pm here. There are 3 preparation sessions: 6.30– 7.45 pm on Sunday 10th, 17th and 24th May. Venue tbc.

Prayer meetings at St Margaret's: Monday: 7.00 -7.45pm: on ZOOM / Wednesday at 12 noon in Errwood Room with lunch at Dahlia Café after (optional) / Thursday at 7.30-8.15am in Errwood Room.

If you are visiting St Margaret's for the first time we hope you will enjoy worshipping with us today.

For more information please visit our website: www.stmargaretsburnage.org.uk

Come and join us for tea or coffee after the service.



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 .