



Notices for 21st of April 2024

The fourth Sunday of Easter

*A warm welcome to everyone;
please come into the hall for refreshments after the service.*

Collect:

Almighty God,
whose Son Jesus Christ is the resurrection and the life:
raise us, who trust in him,
from the death of sin to the life of righteousness,
that we may seek those things which are above,
where he reigns with you
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Hymns:

- 380** At the name of Jesus
- 589** The King of Love my shepherd
- 393** Brother, sister, let me serve you
- 542** O love that wilt not let me go
- 585** The Church's one foundation

Although there is no formal collection during the offertory hymn, please feel free to make a contribution to the work of St. Mary's either in the Treasury box at the back of church, or using the card reader, also at the back of church. Thank you.

Readings:

Acts 4:5-12

The next day their rulers, elders, and scribes assembled in Jerusalem, with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. When they had made the prisoners stand in their midst, they inquired, 'By what power or by what name did you do this?' Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, 'Rulers of the people and elders, if we are questioned today because of a good deed done to someone who was sick and are asked how this man has been healed, let it be known to all of you, and to all the people of Israel, that this man is standing before you in good health by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead. This Jesus is "the stone that was rejected by you, the builders; it has become the cornerstone."

There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved.'

John 10:11-18

'I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away—and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father.'

Post-communion prayer:

Merciful Father,
you gave your Son Jesus Christ to be the good shepherd,
and in his love for us to lay down his life and rise again:
keep us always under his protection,
and give us grace to follow in his steps;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Vacancy Notices and Dates

On Weds 17th April, the PCC held what is known as a “Section 11 Meeting”. In this meeting It was agreed that the Parish Profile is now finalised, we will proceed to advertise the position in the Church Times during May, and Dan and Peter are now elected as the parish representatives for the interview process. Dan and Peter will meet with Area Dean Rosemary Donovan, Archdeacon Martin Breadmore and Bishop Paul Davies in early June to consider applications for interview in early July.

Sharing of the Peace

Following discussion in PCC, and consultation with the area dean, it is agreed that we will evolve our guidance for the exchange of the Peace. Our policy of asking everyone simply to wave was introduced during the Covid pandemic, and we still want to respect social distancing for those who chose to retain this. For now, we are asking everyone to remain in their pews, and to shake hands only where it is mutually agreeable between those sitting next to one another.

8am SERVICES will be held only once a month on the first Sunday of each month. Any questions please talk to Dan or Peter.

Intercessors, Sidespeople and Welcomers

Our Sunday services are assisted by several small groups of people. We would like to encourage more to join these teams to reduce the work load of the current people. Please talk to Peter or Dan to find out more.

Dates for your Diary

Quiz Night

Thank you to everyone who came to the quiz night last Saturday. We made a grand total of £900 for the Church.

Saturday 4th May 10am-12pm

Crochet Session in The Leverton Room. All welcome

Sunday 12th May APCM the Annual Parish meeting will be held at 11:00 hours after the morning service. There are five vacancies on the PCC, so if you would like to be part of the PCC, or if you think that someone you know would be a great asset to the PCC (please ask them first), then there are nomination forms to fill in on the table at the back of the Church. Please talk to Peter, Dan or Sara if you would like to know more.

Saturday 22nd June

Midsummer tea party

Looking Forward...

Sunday 24th November - Sunday Christmas Homemade Sunday

Also - parish barbecue in September - date to be arranged
additional homemade Sundays - dates to be arranged