

St John's, Pevensey Road



**Pews News & Service Sheet
for Sunday 18th April 2021**

The Third Sunday of Easter



Welcome to our Parish Mass service today - also viewable later via the Broadcast Page of our church website www.stjohnspevenseyroad.org.uk/broadcast

Sunday Parish Mass is held at 10:30 a.m. with a socially-distanced congregation; recorded and broadcast via our church website, by about Sunday lunchtime.

The church is open for **private prayer on weekday mornings**, following **Morning Prayer** which is said in church on weekdays at 9 a.m.

Midweek Mass recommences this Wednesday here at 10 a.m.

Online "Zoom" service: 10 a.m. on Wednesday. Send Rev Jill or Deacon Michael an email and they will send you the necessary "link".

People for whom our prayers are asked:

Jean & Geoff, Geraldine, Brenda R, Jane G, Jo, Amber, Shirley, Andrew N, Kath Q, Linda, Jude, Alison Nunes, Jackie A, Don F, Sue T, and Eve G.

Please pray also for...

...the repose of the souls of the recently departed, especially John Vaughan, and HRH Prince Philip,

...those whose Years Minds fall around this time: Megan Traice, Clare Conely, and Rosemary Brandt,

...and all who mourn.



*Congratulations
to our friend
Kath: 100 years
young last Friday!*



HYMN OF THE WEEK: "Jerusalem" ... chosen by Janet F

Janet says: *"I wanted to suggest 'And did those feet in ancient time' written by the poet William Blake as an introduction to a book about Milton I believe and set to music much later by Hubert Parry. Blake was a poet in the romantic tradition and there is a distinct trace of the romantic and mystical in this hymn which greatly appeals to me. In addition there is the distinct call to action which has served as an inspiration to many a politician from different parties whether of the so-called left or right and that includes me."*

The poem was supposedly inspired by the apocryphal story that a young Jesus, accompanied by Joseph of Arimathea, a tin merchant, travelled to what is now England and visited Glastonbury. Most scholars reject the historical authenticity of this story out of hand, with one British folklore scholar, A. W. Smith, averring that the story didn't emerge until the early part of the twentieth century. The poem's theme is linked to the Book of Revelation (3:12 and 21:2) describing a Second Coming, wherein Jesus establishes a New Jerusalem. Jerusalem is often used as a metaphor for Heaven, a place of universal love and peace.

In the most common interpretation of the poem, Blake implies that a visit by Jesus would briefly create heaven in England, in contrast to the "dark Satanic Mills" of the Industrial Revolution. Blake's poem asks four questions rather than asserting the historical truth of Christ's visit. Thus the poem merely wonders if there had been a divine visit, when there was briefly heaven in England. The second verse is interpreted as an exhortation to create an ideal society in England, whether or not there was such a divine visit.

Mass for Easter 3

The Greeting

In the name of the Father,
and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

All Amen.

The Lord be with you
All and also with you.

Alleluia! Christ is risen.
All He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Prayer of Confession

Christ our passover lamb has been
sacrificed for us.
Let us therefore rejoice by putting
away all malice and evil
and confessing our sins
with a sincere and true heart.

**All Almighty God,
our heavenly Father,
we have sinned against you
and against our neighbour
in thought and word and deed,
through negligence,
through weakness,
through our own deliberate fault.
We are truly sorry
and repent of all our sins.
For the sake of your Son
Jesus Christ,
who died for us,
forgive us all that is past
and grant that we may serve you
in newness of life
to the glory of your name. Amen.**

The priest says the Absolution

Almighty God,
who forgives all who truly repent,
have mercy upon you,
pardon and deliver you from all your sins,

confirm and strengthen you in all goodness,
and keep you in life eternal;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

The Gloria in Excelsis is said:

**All Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.**

**Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.**

**Lord Jesus Christ,
only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand
of the Father:
receive our prayer.**

**For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen**

The Collect

Let us pray:

Almighty Father,
who in your great mercy gladdened the
disciples
with the sight of the risen Lord:
give us such knowledge of his presence
with us,
that we may be strengthened and
sustained by his risen life
and serve you continually in
righteousness and truth;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

All Amen.

A reading from **The Acts of the Apostles**

Acts 3.12-19

Peter addressed the people, 'You Israelites, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we had made him walk? The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our ancestors has glorified his servant Jesus, whom you handed over and rejected in the presence of Pilate, though he had decided to release him. But you rejected the Holy and Righteous One and asked to have a murderer given to you, and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. And by faith in his name, his name itself has made this man strong, whom you see and know; and the faith that is through Jesus has given him this perfect health in the presence of all of you.

'And now, friends, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. In this way God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, that his Messiah would suffer. Repent therefore, and turn to God so that your sins may be wiped out.'

For the Word of the Lord

All Thanks be to God

A reading from **the First Letter of John**

1 John 3.1-7

See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we

are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

Everyone who commits sin is guilty of lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. You know that he was revealed to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. No one who abides in him sins; no one who sins has either seen him or known him. Little children, let no one deceive you. Everyone who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous.

For the Word of the Lord

All Thanks be to God

Gradual Hymn

And did those feet in ancient time
walk upon England's mountains green?
And was the holy Lamb of God
on England's pleasant pastures seen?
And did the countenance divine
shine forth upon our clouded hills?
And was Jerusalem builded here
among these dark satanic mills?

Bring me my bow of burning gold!
Bring me my arrows of desire!
Bring me my spear! O clouds, unfold!
Bring me my chariot of fire!
I will not cease from mental fight,
nor shall my sword sleep in my hand,
till we have built Jerusalem
in England's green and pleasant land.

William Blake (1757-1827)

Gospel Reading

Alleluia, alleluia.

I am the first and the last,
says the Lord, and the living one;
I was dead, and behold I am alive for
evermore.

All Alleluia

The Lord be with you

All And also with you

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus
Christ according to Luke

All Glory to you, O Lord.

Luke 24.36b-48

While the eleven and their companions were talking about what they had heard, Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, 'Peace be with you.' They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. He said to them, 'Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have.' And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, 'Have you anything here to eat?' They gave him a piece of broiled fish, and he took it and ate in their presence.

Then he said to them, 'These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you - that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.' Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, 'Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from

the dead on the third day, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

The Creed

Let us declare our faith in God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

**All We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
was incarnate from the Holy Spirit
and the Virgin Mary, and was made
man.**

**For our sake he was crucified under
Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the
Father.
He will come again in glory to judge
the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and
the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is
worshipped and glorified,
who has spoken through the
Prophets.**

**We believe in one holy catholic and
apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the
forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the
dead, and the life of the world to
come.
Amen.**

Prayers of Intercession

Jesus, our exalted Lord, has been
given all authority.
Let us seek his intercession that our
prayers may be perfected by his prayer.

Jesus Christ, great high priest,
living for ever to intercede for us,
pray for the Church, your broken body in
the world ...

Lord, hear us.
All Lord, graciously hear us.

Jesus Christ, King of righteousness,
enthroned at the right hand of the
majesty on high,
pray for the world, and make it subject to
your gentle rule ...

Lord, hear us.
All Lord, graciously hear us.

Jesus Christ, Son of Man,
drawing humanity into the life of God,
pray for your sisters and brothers in need,
distress, or sorrow ...

Lord, hear us.
All Lord, graciously hear us.

Jesus, pioneer of our salvation,
bringing us to glory through your death
and resurrection,
surround with your saints and angels
those who have died trusting your
promises ...

Lord, hear us.
All Lord, graciously hear us.

Jesus Christ, Lord over all things,
ascended far above the heavens and
filling the universe,
pray for us who receive the gifts you give
us for work in your service ...

Lord, hear us.
All Lord, graciously hear us.

Jesus Christ,
keep the Church in the unity of the Spirit
and in the bond of peace,
and bring the whole created order to
worship at your feet;
for you are alive and reign with the
Father and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.
All Amen.

The Peace *is introduced*

The risen Christ came and stood among his disciples and said 'Peace be with you.'

Then were they glad when they saw the Lord. Alleluia.

The peace of the Lord be always with you
All and also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

We may exchange a sign of peace

The Preparation of the Table

The table is prepared and bread and wine are placed upon it. Music: Medley of Easter hymns.

Creator of all,
you wash away our sins,
you give us new birth by the Spirit,
and redeem us in the blood of Christ.
As we celebrate the resurrection,
renew your gift of life within us.
We ask this in the name of
Jesus Christ, the risen Lord.

All Amen.

The president takes the bread and wine.

The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord is here

All His Spirit is with us.

Lift up your hearts.

All We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All It is right to give thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
always and everywhere to give you thanks,
almighty and eternal Father,
and in these days of Easter
to celebrate with joyful hearts
the memory of your wonderful works.
For by the mystery of his passion
Jesus Christ, your risen Son,
has conquered the powers of death
and hell
and restored in men and women
the image of your glory.
He has placed them once more in
paradise
and opened to them the gate of life
eternal.

And so, in the joy of this Passover,
earth and heaven resound with
gladness,
while angels and archangels and the
powers of all creation
proclaim for ever the hymn of your glory:

**All Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of
your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Lord, you are holy indeed, the source of
all holiness;
grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit,
and according to your holy will,
these gifts of bread and wine
may be to us the body and blood of our
Lord Jesus Christ;

who, in the same night that he was betrayed,
took bread and gave you thanks;
he broke it and gave it to his disciples,
saying:
Take, eat; this is my body which is given
for you;
do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper
he took the cup and gave you thanks;
he gave it to them, saying:
Drink this, all of you;
this is my blood of the new covenant,
which is shed for you and for many for
the forgiveness of sins.
Do this, as often as you drink it,
in remembrance of me.

Great is the mystery of faith:
All Christ has died:
Christ is risen:
Christ will come again.

And so, Father, calling to mind his
death on the cross,
his perfect sacrifice made once for the
sins of the whole world;
rejoicing in his mighty resurrection and
glorious ascension,
and looking for his coming in glory,
we celebrate this memorial of our
redemption.

As we offer you this our sacrifice of
praise and thanksgiving,
we bring before you this bread and this cup
and we thank you for counting us worthy
to stand in your presence and serve you.

Send the Holy Spirit on your people
and gather into one in your kingdom
all who share this one bread and one cup,

so that we, in the company of Saint
John the Evangelist, Saint Peter, Mary
the Mother of God, and all the saints,
may praise and glorify you for ever,
through Jesus Christ our Lord;

by whom, and with whom, and in whom,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory be yours,
almighty Father, for ever and ever.
All Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Rejoicing in God's new creation,
let us pray with confidence as our
Saviour has taught us

All Our Father,
who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come;
thy will be done;
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass
against us.
And lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
the power and the glory,
for ever and ever.
Amen.

Breaking of the Bread

We break this bread
to share in the body of Christ.

All Though we are many,
we are one body,
because we all share
in one bread

Agnus Dei is said:

All Jesus, Lamb of God,
Have mercy on us
Jesus, bearer of our sins,
Have mercy on us
Jesus, redeemer of the world,
Grant us peace

Giving of Communion

Alleluia. Christ our passover is sacrificed for us.

All Therefore let us keep the feast.
Alleluia.

*Communion is received.
Music: Medley of Easter hymns.*

Prayer after Communion

*The priest prays the Post
Communion for the day:*

Living God,
your Son made himself known to his disciples
in the breaking of bread:
open the eyes of our faith,
that we may see him in all his redeeming work;
who is alive and reigns, now and for ever.
All Amen.

All Father of all,
we give you thanks and praise,
that when we were still far off,
you met us in your Son
and brought us home.
Dying and living,
he declared your love,
gave us grace,
and opened the gate of glory.
May we who share Christ's body
live his risen life;

we who drink his cup
bring life to others;
we whom the Spirit lights
give light to the world.
Keep us firm in the hope you have set
before us,
so we and all your children shall be
free,
and the whole earth live to praise your
name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Notices

The Blessing and Dismissal

Priest The Lord be with you
All And also with you

The God of peace,
who brought again from the dead our
Lord Jesus,
that great shepherd of the sheep,
through the blood of the eternal
covenant,
make you perfect in every good work to
do his will,
working in you that which is well-pleasing
in his sight;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you
and remain with you always.
All Amen.

Priest Go in the the peace of Christ.
Alleluia, alleluia
All Thanks be to God.
Alleluia, alleluia.

**Concluding Voluntary: *Allegro alla
Marcia - A.L. Peace***



Following on from the article on gardens last week, here is a photo taken by Mary, of the lovely cherry blossom in the church garden.

If you use the NHS Covid-19 App on your smartphone, to log into church when you arrive, please note that the privacy settings have been updated by the App providers, and can be viewed via the "About this App" tab on the app's homepage on your phone.



Would ewe believe it? With the recent Pews News article on Labyrinths in mind - here is a photo shared on social media last week, of sheep in a Sussex field, standing in a labyrinth-type formation! Bizarre!

A Celtic Easter Blessing

The Lord of the empty tomb
The conqueror of gloom
Come to you

The Lord in the garden walking
The Lord to Mary talking
Come to you

The Lord in the Upper Room
Dispelling fear and gloom
Come to you

The Lord on the road to Emmaus
The Lord giving hope to Thomas
Come to you

The Lord appearing on the shore
Giving us life for evermore
Come to you

From The Edge of Glory, by David Adam



23rd April: St George, our Patron Saint who isn't English

The English have a patron saint who isn't English, about whom next to nothing is known for sure, and who, just possibly, may not have existed at all. But that didn't stop St George being patriotically invoked in many battles, notably at Agincourt and in the Crusades.

It's most likely that St George was a soldier, a Christian who was martyred for his faith somewhere in Palestine, possibly at Lydda, in the early fourth century. At some point in the early centuries of the Church he became associated with wider military concerns, also being regarded as the patron saint of the Byzantine armies. There is no doubt that St George was held as an example of the 'godly soldier', one who served Christ as

bravely and truly as he served his king and country.

The story of George and the dragon is of much later date and no one seems to know where it comes from. By the Middle Ages, when George was being honoured in stained glass, the dragon had become an invaluable and invariable visual element, so that for most people the two are inseparable.

St George's Day presents a challenge and an opportunity. The challenge is to distance the message of his life from the militarism and triumphalism that can easily attach itself to anything connected to soldiers and fighting. The opportunity is to celebrate the ideal of the 'Christian soldier' - one who submits to discipline, sets out to obey God truly, and does not avoid the inevitable battle with the "dragon" of all that is unjust and wrong in our world.



**The Foodbank's
currently most
needed items are:**

- Tinned meat (not corned beef or pork)
- Tinned vegetables (especially peas and carrots)
- Tinned fruit
- Longlife milk: full fat or semi-skimmed
- Tinned spaghetti in sauce

Also welcomed:

- Toiletries, toilet rolls
- Tinned fish, potatoes, rice pudding
- Tea, coffee, long-life fruit juice.

*The container for donations is at the
back of church* **Thank you!**

Our Annual Meetings

The Annual Meeting for the Election of Churchwardens and the Annual Parochial Church Meeting will be held this year NEXT SUNDAY after the 10:30 Mass, and last about 45 minutes. It would be great to see as many as safely possible at these meetings which are important for the running of St John's.

If you are unable to attend but would like to see the Annual Report, please contact Tina our Administrator, 01424 425942, admstjohns30@gmail.com and a copy will be emailed to you, or sent out to you.

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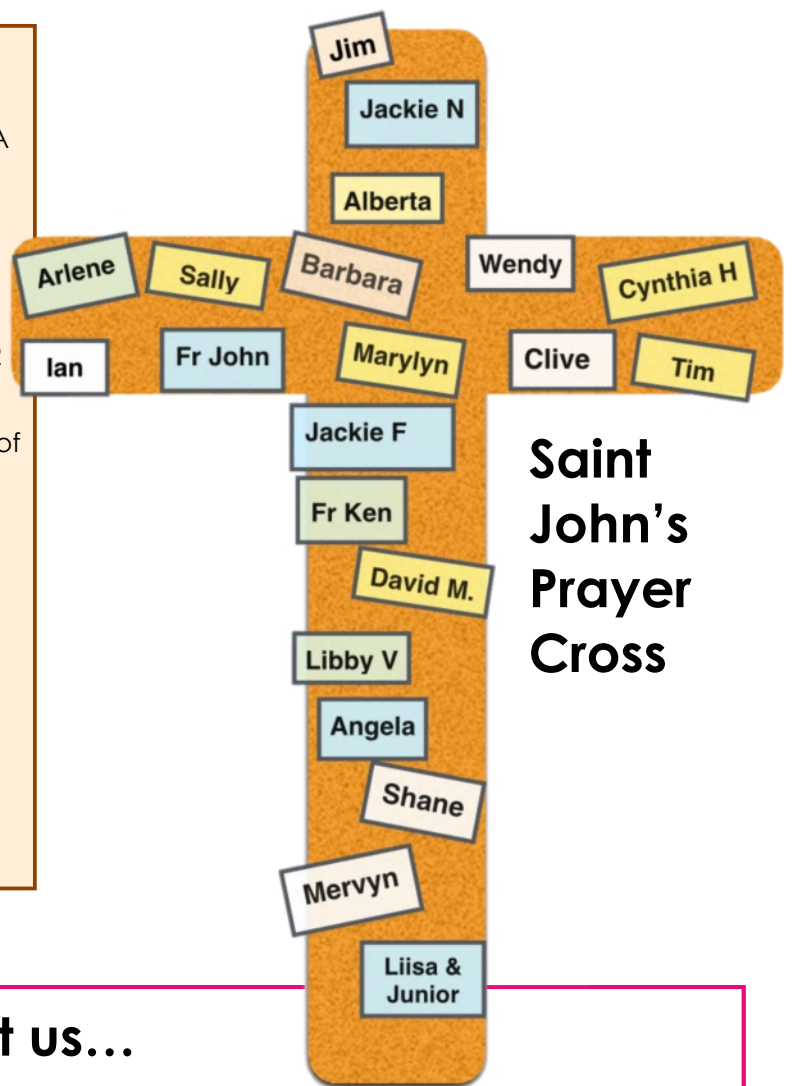
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Hymn of the week info from Hymnary.org and
Wikipedia

Some other items from *Parish Pump*, April 2021



Saint John's Prayer Cross

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Tina is our Administrator.

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Please contact her also for **Church Hall bookings**

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