

# WELCOME TO THE WEEKLY BULLETIN FOR ST MARY'S APSLEY END

Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> April 2020

Again, due to the lockdown from Covid-19, there will be  
**NO services actually in St Mary's Church.** But:

**There will again be a live streamed service  
by Richard from the vicarage  
to which everyone is invited.**

To join live or to watch later, go to the St Mary's page of the website  
(address below), click on the calendar and then the service you want.

**10am Eucharist followed by Sunday School**

#### Please pray for

Eileen Kemp,  
Clare Tofield-Wallington  
All our congregation as we  
continue to adapt

#### St Mary's Collect for Growth

**Dear Lord**, please help us grow St Mary's Church. As we grow  
in love of you, draw new people week by week into this church  
family. May we show your love to all, within and beyond our  
walls. **In Jesus' name. Amen**

#### Contact Details

**Team Vicar:** Rev Richard Howlett 01442 767738 [revrhowlett@gmail.com](mailto:revrhowlett@gmail.com)  
**Website, email list  
& calendar:** [www.beneficeoflangelei.org.uk/stmarys/](http://www.beneficeoflangelei.org.uk/stmarys/)  
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**General enquiries:** [stmarysapsleyend@gmail.com](mailto:stmarysapsleyend@gmail.com)  
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**Administrator:** Norma Howie, 01923 266596 [saintskl2@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:saintskl2@tiscali.co.uk)  
(Mon & Wed 7.30am-2.30pm, Thurs 12.00pm-3.00pm, Fri 11.00am-2:30pm)

#### Notices

- The APCM (Annual Parochial Church Meeting) will no longer be on 26<sup>th</sup> April. A new date before 31 October will be announced soon. The Annual Report will however appear 'soon'.
- Though the church is closed at the moment, **we still have expenses to pay**. If you could make your usual weekly offering electronically or by cheque, please contact Peter Bladon: 01442 257108 or [bladon2010@btinternet.com](mailto:bladon2010@btinternet.com).
- **'Staying in Touch' mini groups**. Each member of the church family should have been contacted at least once by now by their 'nominated PCC member'. If you haven't had this contact, please get in touch with Janet Wright via [stmarysapsleyend@gmail.com](mailto:stmarysapsleyend@gmail.com) to check we have your correct details.
- **The 200 club** is on hold until we get back to church.

#### Weekly Newsletter No 4 from Richard Howlett, our team vicar

##### Dear Friends

I do hope this finds you well. I was grateful for a few days rest after Easter, and like many of you spent time in the garden. It was wonderful to be able to plant a few seeds that I found on a trawl through the shelves in my garage. Some were a bit ancient, but the inherent potential for life in an apparently 'dead' seed never ceases to amaze me. We shall see what soil, water, sunshine, and time will bring forth!

I am conscious of how this time of waiting has had benefits for some: time with children, time to discover some new interests, time to get round to those jobs that have been on the back burner for ever. Waiting is not always bad, even if it can be hard. For others, this period has been long, especially for those in solitary isolation, and for those who are anxiously awaiting news, for example about relatives and friends, or about the future of their work.

For the disciples, our Gospel this week opens with them being locked away in a room, waiting, and in fear. The locked door is no barrier to the risen Christ; he appears in their midst. Christ also deals with the fear that has locked their hearts and minds, telling them repeatedly 'Peace be with you'.

As we face yet more lockdown, all sorts of things will be hard. Yet we are not alone. The risen Christ is not shut out. Let us ask him to give us, each day, his peace. It will give us new strength and courage, as it did the disciples.

**Bishop Alan's sermon.** I received an email apologising that the link to Bishop Alan's sermon last week did not work. The bishop has done another sermon, and I encourage you to use this link to access it:  
<https://stalbandsdiocese.sharepoint.com/:v:/g/EYhjVdVLPc9KsHqJ6qdRArcBexz0PfiGkDQrWlu99DlvRA?e=VXTuVL>

A copy of my Sunday sermon will be delivered to you on request if you cannot access it on St Mary's website.

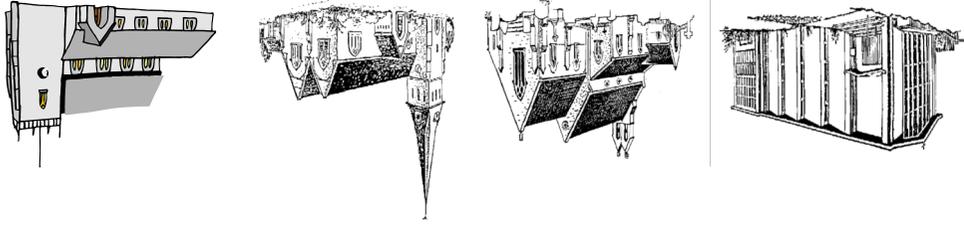
Though we are parted, for a time, nothing can stop us from affirming love's victory, which is at the heart of our faith: 'Alleluia Christ is risen'. To which, let us all reply, 'He is risen indeed, Alleluia!'

With our love and prayers  
*Richard and Katherine*

**Do join our email list** (opposite) as we are trying to keep everyone up to date via at least weekly emails. Another useful source of contact is the **St Mary's Facebook group**.

**Please send items for this bulletin to** [stmarysapsleyend@gmail.com](mailto:stmarysapsleyend@gmail.com)

# The Benefice of Langdale!



St Benedict's,  
Bennetts End

Holy Trinity,  
Leverstock Green

St Mary's,  
Apsley

All Saints,  
Kings Langley

## THE SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

19th April 2020

### The Collect

Risen Christ,  
for whom no door is locked, no entrance barred:  
open the doors of our hearts,  
that we may seek the good of others  
and walk the joyful road of sacrifice and peace,  
to the praise of God the Father.  
**Amen.**

### A reading from the Acts of the Apostles 2. 14a, 22-32

On the day of Pentecost, Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd, 'You that are Israelites, listen to what I have to say: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with deeds of power, wonders, and signs that God did through him among you, as you yourselves know - this man, handed over to you according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of those outside the law. But God raised him up, having freed him from death, because it was impossible for him to be held in its power. For David says concerning him, "I saw the Lord always before me, for he is at my right hand so that I will not be shaken; therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced; moreover my flesh will live in hope. For you will not abandon my soul to Hades, or let your Holy One experience corruption. You have made known to me the ways of life; you will make me full of gladness with your presence." Fellow Israelites, I may say to you confidently of our ancestor David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. Since he was a prophet, he knew that God had sworn

*continued on the back!*

with an oath to him that he would put one of his descendants on his throne. Foreseeing this, David spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah, saying, "He was not abandoned to Hades, nor did his flesh experience corruption." This Jesus God raised up, and of that all of us are witnesses;

This is the Word of the Lord. **THANKS BE TO GOD!**

**A reading from the first letter of Peter 1 : 3-9**  
By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, who are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. In this you rejoice, even if now for a little while you have had to suffer various trials, so that the genuineness of your faith - being more precious than gold that, though perishable, is tested by fire - may be found to result in praise and glory and honour when Jesus Christ is revealed.  
Although you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy, for you are receiving the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.  
This is the Word of the Lord. **THANKS BE TO GOD!**

### Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John 20: 19-end

When it was evening on the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."  
But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."  
A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

### This is the Gospel of the Lord. PRAISE TO YOU, O CHRISTI

Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name. In this book, But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Lord and my God! Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."  
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This bulletin, with the notices, prayer and readings to study at your leisure, is for you to take home. Please pray for the work of the church in this Parish. [www.beneficeoflangdale.org.uk](http://www.beneficeoflangdale.org.uk)