

Welcome to St Mary's Apsley



and welcome to our service today

31st March, 2024
Easter Day

If you need anything during the service, please ask someone sitting nearby, they will be pleased to help. Please stay after the service for refreshments and a chat in the Refectory at the back of the church.

This Week at St Mary's

Today

6.00am Dawn Eucharist
9.00am Bellringing
9.30am Parish Eucharist

Monday

9.00am Pilgrimage to St Albans
10.00 -12.00 NO Working Party
8.00pm NO Bellringing practice

Tuesday

9.30am NO Buzzy Bees until 23rd April
12.30-2.30pm Foodbank and Community Café

Thursday

9.30 - 3.30 Church open for private prayer
9.30am NO Eucharist on 4th & 11th April
10.00 – 12.00 Foodbank and Community Café
10.15am Study Group in the Vestry
8pm Virtual Study Group

Friday

10.00 -12.00 Working Party in Church & Churchyard

Saturday

10.00 -12.00 Saturday Community Café

Sunday 7th April

10.30am Team Service at Holy Trinity



Dear Friends

Happy Easter! May the joy of the risen Lord be with you.

This year it felt like Lent was wizzing by so quickly, and then all of a sudden in Holy Week it felt like Easter would never come. "Is the resurrection coming?" I wrote to my Spiritual Director in an email. "What will be different when it does?". This question seems to come to me every year and every year the answer is different, because the Resurrection shows itself in different ways each year, depending on our needs and our circumstances. Do not make the mistake (as I have often done and often still do!) of looking for huge, overwhelming signs of the Resurrection, like all of your problems being solved or everything being made perfect - that is for Jesus to accomplish at the end of time.

For us, here, now, today, the signs are smaller but not lacking in hope, for all their smallness. You have to notice them and take them for what they are. Notice the smell of the dewy grass in the morning as the sun rises. Notice the garden birds tending their nests. Give thanks for the encouragement of friendship. Accept the invitation to rest in the joy of the Lord. Let go of old hurts and grudges. Let time, and the movement of the Holy Spirit, do its thing, and mend what has been broken. The season of Easter is for joy, despite that not everything is perfect, despite that grief and loss are still with us. It is not a season for pretending, but a season for being truly, deeply joyful for the good things, and giving the difficult things to God for God to hold and care for.

I wish you a very Happy Easter, and thank you for your fellowship on the journey.

Yours in Christ
Mother Alice

Sunday's Collect and Readings (Year B)

The Collect

Lord of all life and power,
who through the mighty resurrection of your Son
overcame the old order of sin and death
to make all things new in him;
grant that we, being dead to sin
and alive to you in Jesus Christ,
may reign with him in glory;
to whom with you and the Holy Spirit
be praise and honour, glory and might,
now and in all eternity.

Amen

A reading from the book of Acts 10.34-43

Then Peter began to speak to them: 'I truly understand that God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.'

This is the Word of the Lord.

THANKS BE TO GOD

A reading from the First Letter of Paul to the Corinthians 15.1-11

Now I should remind you, brothers and sisters, of the good news that I proclaimed to you, which you in turn received, in which also you stand, through which also you are being saved, if you hold firmly to the message that I proclaimed to you—unless you have come to believe in vain.

For I handed on to you as of first importance what I in turn had received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures, and that he was buried, and that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures, and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers and sisters at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died. Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. Last of all, as to someone untimely born, he appeared also to me. For I am the least of the apostles, unfit to be

called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace towards me has not been in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them—though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me. Whether then it was I or they, so we proclaim and so you have come to believe.

This is the Word of the Lord.

THANKS BE TO GOD!

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John 20.1-18

GLORY TO YOU, O LORD!

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, 'They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him.' Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went towards the tomb. The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, and the cloth that had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. Then the disciples returned to their homes.

But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. They said to her, 'Woman, why are you weeping?' She said to them, 'They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him.' When she had said this, she turned round and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to her, 'Woman, why are you weeping? For whom are you looking?' Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, 'Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away.' Jesus said to her, 'Mary!' She turned and said to him in Hebrew, 'Rabbouni!' (which means Teacher). Jesus said to her, 'Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, "I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God." ' Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, 'I have seen the Lord'; and she told them that he had said these things to her.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

PRAISE TO YOU, O CHRIST!

Thursday's Readings (Year B)

A reading from the book of Acts 3.11-end

While he clung to Peter and John, all the people ran together to them in the portico called Solomon's Portico, utterly astonished. When Peter saw it, he 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, so that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord, and that he may send the Messiah appointed for you, that is, Jesus, who must remain in heaven until the time of universal restoration that God announced long ago through his holy prophets. Moses said, "The Lord your God will raise up for you from your own people a prophet like me. You must listen to whatever he tells you. And it will be that everyone who does not listen to that prophet will be utterly rooted out from the people." And all the prophets, as many as have spoken, from Samuel and those after him, also predicted these days. You are the descendants of the prophets and of the covenant that God gave to your ancestors, saying to Abraham, "And in your descendants all the families of the earth shall be blessed." When God raised up his servant, he sent him first to you, to bless you by turning each of you from your wicked ways.'

This is the word of the Lord.

THANKS BE TO GOD!

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke 24.35-48

GLORY TO YOU, O LORD!

Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

While they were talking about this, 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.

PRAISE TO YOU, O CHRIST!

Contact Information

Vicar:	Mthr Alice Jolley	01442 615246	mthr.AliceJolley@outlook.com
General Enquiries:	Please contact the Benefice Office		Monday – Friday 8.30am – 12.30pm
Administrator/ Benefice Office:	Sue Bassett	01923 266596	07503 950315 or SaintsKL2@tiscali.co.uk
Facebook:	St Mary's Apsley End	Twitter:	@StMarys1871
Churchwardens:	Sylvia Low	07742 610932	SylviayLow@gmail.com
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	Katharine Harper	07881 602024	KatharineHarper23@gmail.com
Website/calendar:	www.BeneficeofLangelei.org.uk/StMarys		

Notices

Please send any input for next week to Sue in the Benefice office on SaintsKL2@fiscali.co.uk by noon on Wednesday and copy it to StMarysApsleyEnd@gmail.com.

Sunday 7th April

Join us at Holy Trinity, Leverstock Green for the Team Eucharist at 10.30am

Electoral roll

It's the time of year again for the electoral roll of the Church to be reviewed. There is a notice regarding this on the notice board. If you would like to be added or removed from the electoral roll for this church - please speak to Marina McKenna or contact via email at missmmckenna@hotmail.co.uk for more information.

Alternatively speak to a church warden.

Welcome Boxes for Nascent House

Thank you to everyone that has made contributions to our Welcome Box scheme for Oxygen Recovery (Nascent House) recently. We have donated 13 boxes since January which is incredible. This does mean that we are low on stock for a number of items. We are in need of toothpaste, sweets (small packets) individual bars of soap, notelets, ball point pens, body wash, shampoo and boxes with lids (17L to 25L). Please remember that the products must not contain alcohol. If you would like to know more about this scheme, come and have a chat. Susan & Viv

Easter Monday Pilgrimage

If you are coming on the Easter Monday Pilgrimage to St Albans, we are leaving St Mary's at 9am for the short walk up to Holy Trinity for breakfast!! Details concerning the walk can be found on the poster or speak to Peter Bladon

Sponsorship for our organists



Our organist today, Peter Lipman, is sponsored by an anonymous person. If you enjoy having the organ accompany our worship you too can be a sponsor. You can mark a Birthday, Anniversary or a notable event or just because.

Please contact one of the churchwardens – Harry G-B or Sylvia Low for more information.

Safeguarding Administrator (0.6) - The Diocese of St Albans (stalbandsdiocese.org)

For more information visit:

www.stalbandsdiocese.org/vacancies/safeguarding-administrator/

Deadline for applications are 12pm on 8th April 2024.

Foodbanks at St Mary's and St B's

St Mary's foodbank is open 12.30-2.30 on Tuesdays and 10.00 -12.00 on Thursdays with a community café serving simple hot food. Donations either to the church or to Dunelm gratefully received. Assistance at both foodbanks and at St B's on Wednesday 9.30-12.00 needed. If you can help, do speak to Mother Alice.

Dates for your diary

Sun 31 st Mar	Easter Sunday 6am Dawn Eucharist followed by Breakfast 9.30am Family Eucharist followed by Egg Hunt
Mon 1 st Apr	Pilgrimage to St Albans Cathedral
Sun 7 th Apr	Joint Eucharist at Holy Trinity
Sun 21 st Apr	Messy Church
Sun 28 th Apr	Lizzie's Farewell Service 3pm Holy Trinity
Sun 19 th May	Messy Church

Rotas - Who's doing what when

	31 st March Easter Day	7 th April
	9.30 Eucharist	10.30 Team Eucharist at Holy Trinity
Music	Peter Lipman	
Warden	Harry GB	
Sides duty	Colin Rivett & Pauline Buck	
Welcomer	Sylvia Low	
Reading	Dan Shirley	
Intercessions	Viv Hagel	
Offertory	Shirley family	
Chalice	Susan Rivett & Katharine Harper	
2nd Counter	Susan Rivett & Katharine Harper	
Refreshments	Viv Hagel & Melanie Henley	
Sunday School	Lilian Hepwood	

Sue Bassett 28/03/2024