

***The Parishes of Adbaston, Gnosall, Knightley & High Offley, Moreton and Norbury  
Weekly News and Notices***

**Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> April 2024 (2nd Sunday of Easter)**

Christ our risen Lord, no tomb can keep you:

**Come, lead us out of darkness into light**

Christ our risen Lord, no door is closed to you:

**Come, lead us out of darkness into light**

Christ our risen Lord, no heart is barred to you:

**Come, lead us out of darkness into light**

Christ our risen Lord, no mind is shut off from you:

**Come, lead us out of darkness into light**

**CONFESSION**

Christ bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that we might die to sin and live for righteousness. By his wounds we have been healed. So let us acknowledge our failure and disobedience and return to the Lord with penitence and faith.

Eternal God, you have given your Son for us, and poured out your Spirit, yet we fail to return your love with all our heart:

**Have mercy and forgive us**

Gracious God, we have come to see that our lives fall far short of your glory. We are sometimes filled with doubts and we forget to put our trust in you:

**Have mercy and forgive us**

Loving God, in Christ we are given a sure hope and secure love, yet we follow the false hopes and desires of this world:

**Have mercy and forgive us**

Heavenly Father, through the redeeming death of your Son, by your Spirit and through your word, enable us to follow you with joy:

**All this we ask, confident of your faithfulness and love**

**Amen**

**ABSOLUTION**

May the Father forgive you by the death of his Son and strengthen you to live in the power of the Spirit all your days.

**Amen**

**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**

## **First Reading**

### **Act 4: 32-35**

Now the whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common. With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. There was not a needy person among them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold. They laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

This is the word of the Lord: **Thanks be to God**

## **Gospel Reading**

### **John 20: 19-end**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John: **Glory to you O Lord**

When it was evening on that day, 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.'

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 Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

This is the Gospel of the Lord: **Praise to you O Christ**

## **Reflection**

### **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

Let us declare our faith in God:

**We believe in God the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named.**

**We believe in God the Son, who lives in our hearts through faith, and fills us with his love.**

**We believe in God the Holy Spirit, who strengthens us with power from on high.**

**We believe in one God; Father, Son and Holy Spirit.**

**Amen**

*We bring our prayers using the response:* Lord in your mercy: **hear our prayers**

**Merciful Father, accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

### **The Lord's Prayer**

*As our Saviour taught us, so we pray*

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**

### **Peace**

The peace of the eternal be about you.

The peace of the risen Lord be within you.

The peace of the Holy Spirit be upon you.

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

### **Offering Prayer**

God of great gifts: We give you praise, we give you glory and we give you thanks! With resurrection humming in our hearts, our minds are tuned to your song of peace! We joyfully offer our gifts to you, a tangible chorus of thanksgiving, a harmony of hope for your kingdom come!

**Amen.**

The Church of which we are members is not defined by the walls of a building but by the Body of Christ of which we are members. In making our communion spiritually, we are joining with Christians everywhere to be nourished by the one who tells us, 'I am the Bread of Life'.

### **Act of Spiritual Communion**

The Church of which we are members is not defined by the walls of a building but by the Body of Christ of which we are members. In making our communion spiritually, we are joining with Christians everywhere to be nourished by the one who tells us, 'I am the Bread of Life'.

**Thanks be to you, Lord Jesus Christ, for all the benefits you have given me, for all the pains and insults you have borne for me. I ask you to come spiritually into my heart. O most merciful redeemer, friend and brother, may I know you more clearly, love you more dearly, and follow you more nearly, day by day. Amen.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, you said to your disciples, 'I am with you always'. Be with me today, as I offer myself to you. Hear my prayers for others and for myself and keep me in your care. Amen.**

**O God, help me to trust you, help me to know that you are with me, help me to believe that nothing can separate me from your love revealed in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

O Lord and heavenly Father, we your humble servants entirely desire your fatherly goodness mercifully to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving; most humbly beseeching you to grant, that by the merits and death of your Son, Jesus Christ, and through faith in his blood, we and all your whole Church may obtain remission of our sins, and all other benefits of his passion.

**Amen**

### **Blessing**

May you find in the risen Lord, the way to fullness of life, the way to joy and peace; and the blessing.....

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. **In the name of Christ, Amen.**

## **Notices**

### **This Week's Services- 7<sup>th</sup> April**

**Gnosall 8am** Holy Communion  
**Benefice Zoom Service 10am**

### **Next week's Services 14<sup>th</sup> April**

**Gnosall 8am** Holy Communion  
**10:30am** Holy Communion  
**4pm** Healing Service  
**Adbaston 9:30am** Morning Worship  
**High Offley 9:30am** Holy Communion  
**Moreton 11am** Holy Communion  
**Norbury 11am** Morning Worship

### **Benefice Zoom Services**

As part of the rhythm of prayer of this Benefice we offer services on Zoom for you to join with from the comfort of your homes. All are welcome to join us, it's the same code for each one, available from the office.

**Night Prayer** is every Monday, Wednesday & Friday evenings 9.30pm on Zoom.

**Morning Prayer** is every Tuesday morning at 9.30am on Zoom.

**Sunday Worship** is the first Sunday of every month at 10am on Zoom.

### **Funerals, Weddings, Baptisms.**

The funeral of Brian Lucas will be held on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> April at 11am at Adbaston Church.

The funeral of Elsie Potham will be on Tues 16<sup>th</sup>, 11am Stafford Crematorium

The funeral of Alan Johnson will be on Fri 19<sup>th</sup>, 11am Stafford Crematorium

The Baptism of Eden Roeton will be at Gnosall Church on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> April at 12 noon.

### **Diary Dates**

**Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup>** Deanery Synod  
**Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup>** Moreton PCC  
**Thursday 11<sup>th</sup>** Knightley & High Offley PCC  
**Friday 12<sup>th</sup>** Friends Beetle Drive

**Gnosall Coffee and Chat**

Coffee and Chat will be held at St Lawrence on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> April 10:30-12:30. Everyone welcome.

**Norbury Churchyard 'Tidy Day'**

Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> April 10.00am onwards  
Anyone who can help - your time will be really appreciated. Refreshments provided. Please bring your own tools.

**Concert for High Offley Church**

Join us for an evening of Classical Guitar with William Hudd on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> April at 7:30pm at Woodseaves Village Hall. Tickets £10 including a glass of wine or soft drink. Proceeds to the refurbishment of the clock faces.

**Deanery Synod, 9th April 7.30pm**

The next Deanery Synod Meeting will be held at Gnosall Church. Guest speakers are Sarah Thorpe and Zoe Heming, talking about Dementia Friendly Church, Enabling All and Places of Welcome. All are welcome to join us for this, particularly PCC members as we will consider taking forward some of their ideas.

**Norbury Quiz Night.**

Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> April 7.30pm prompt start  
Norbury Village Hall. Admission £5.00  
(Includes light refreshments). Please bring own drinks/glasses. Proceeds to St. Peter's Church.

**Spring into Summer with Gnosall Singers**

Moreton Millennium Hall, Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> April at 7pm. All proceeds go to Moreton Church. Contact Pat Simcock on 01952812976 or Pat Tweed 01785822523 for tickets, £7 each.

**Gnosall April 100 Club**

Rosemarie Harris	£25.00
Doreen Walker	£15.00
Rod Wood	£10.00
Margaret Edwards	£ 5.00

**Eco Church**

**Eco Prayer for April:**

Creator God, as we are encouraged to be faithful in the small things (Luke 16:10), we pray for ourselves and others seeking to live sustainable lives. We offer the small acts of recycling, walking and not driving, planting, carrying reusable bottles and many more to you as acts of our faithfulness. Please would you encourage us not to grow weary in doing good and remind us our small acts matter. Amen

**Eco lifestyle tip for the month:**

Fit more active travel into your day and daily routine. As the weather warms up, it's worth considering what journeys can be made by walking or cycling. Could you get off a stop early to walk the rest of your journey, take a relaxing stroll home, or hop on a bike and enjoy a cycle friendly route? If you prefer exploring outdoors on foot, find out if there's a local Ramblers group. For more eco-tips, sign up to A Rocha UK's Wild Christian email at: [arocha.org.uk/wild-christian](mailto:arocha.org.uk/wild-christian)

**Contact Details for Revd Alison**

Email: [rectorstaffsborder@gmail.com](mailto:rectorstaffsborder@gmail.com)

Mobile: 07725 467246 (Day off Thursday)

Benefice Administrator: Victoria Hainsworth

Office: [churchofficegnosall@gmail.com](mailto:churchofficegnosall@gmail.com)

Phone: 01785 822820

Office hours: Tuesday and Wednesday 9-12:30

Friday 9-12