

Date	Time	Service	Readings
1 <sup>st</sup> April	10am 7pm	Holy Communion Tenebrae	Hebrews 12. 1-3 John 13. 21-32
2 <sup>nd</sup> April <b>Maundy Thursday</b>	7pm	Holy Communion & Vigil	1 Cor 11. 23-26 John 13.1-17,31b-35
3 <sup>rd</sup> April <b>Good Friday</b>	2pm	Service of the Cross	
5 <sup>th</sup> April <b>Easter Day</b>	6.30am 8am 10am	Sunrise Service Holy Communion Holy Communion	John 20. 1-18 Acts 10. 34-43 Matthew 28. 1-10
7 <sup>th</sup> April	7pm	Evening Prayer	
8 <sup>th</sup> April	10am	Holy Communion	Acts 3. 1-10 Luke 24. 13-35
12 <sup>th</sup> April <b>Easter 2</b>	8am 10am 4pm	Holy Communion All Age Communion Peter's Praise	Acts 2. 14a, 22-32 John 20. 19-end Exodus 3 John 20. 19-end
13 <sup>th</sup> April	7pm	Evening Prayer	
15 <sup>th</sup> April	10am	Holy Communion	Acts 5. 17-26 John 3. 16-21
19 <sup>th</sup> April <b>Easter 3</b>	8am 10am 4pm	Holy Communion Holy Communion Peter's Praise	Acts 2. 14a, 36-41 Luke 24. 13-35
20 <sup>th</sup> April	7pm	Evening Prayer	
22 <sup>nd</sup> April	10am	Holy Communion	Acts 8. 1b-8 John 6. 35-40
26 <sup>th</sup> April <b>Stewardship</b>	8am 10am 4pm	Holy Communion Holy Communion Wild Worship	Acts 2. 42-end John 10. 1-10
27 <sup>th</sup> April	7pm	Evening Prayer	
29 <sup>th</sup> April	10am	Holy Communion	Acts 12. 24-13.5 John 12. 44-end

### April Diary

**April 3<sup>rd</sup> 10am-12pm** Good Friday Family Event in the Hall

**April 5<sup>th</sup>** Breakfast in the Hall after the Sunrise Service

**April 6<sup>th</sup>** WFVRA Easter Egg Hunt. Refreshments & Activities in the Hall

**April 14<sup>th</sup>**

**2pm** Tea@2 in the Hervey Room

**7pm** PCC meeting in the Hall

**April 15<sup>th</sup>**

**11am** SPOT meeting in the Hall

**April 16<sup>th</sup> 2pm** Bible Book Group

**April 21<sup>st</sup> 2.15pm** Mothers' Union Communion in the Hervey Room

**7.30pm** WFGS in the Hall

**April 29<sup>th</sup> 2.15pm**

Songs of Praise at St John's

**7pm** Standing Committee meeting at The Rectory

**Every Tuesday and Thursday –**

Morning Prayer on Facebook 9am

**Every Wednesday in term time – 1.30pm** Tiny Tots

**Every Thursday - 11am** Holy

Communion at St John's

**7pm** Choir Practice – term time only (6.30pm for school age choristers)

**1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays 6.30pm -**

Youth Café for Years 6-8 at the Church Hall & Youth Life for Years 9 and above at The Rectory (only April 19<sup>th</sup> this month). Term time only.

### Team

**Rector:** Revd. Canon Beverley Hollins 07887 740117

**Churchwardens:** Joy Matsell & Phil Norris

**Lay Vice Chair:** John Fazackerley

**Assistant Priests** Revd. Canon Michael Webber & Revd. Doug Spenceley

**Assistant Curate** Revd Dr Hilary Halstead

**Lay Ministers** Clare Pearce & Sue Pinington

### Safeguarding

Everybody has the right to be safe from harm. If you or someone you know might not be safe, call Joy or Canon Beverley

**Parish Safeguarding Officer**

Joy Matsell,  
07906 378617

**In an emergency call 999**

## Welcome to our April Newsletter!

Dear Friends,

Happy Easter! I hope to see lots of you in church or online as we celebrate our Lord's death and resurrection. A huge thank you to everyone who works so hard to make this time of year special for us in church, in so many ways.

Whether it's cleaning, flower arranging, making music or decorations, looking after children's or intergenerational events, leading worship or making refreshments, thank you! To those who have worked so hard on the Lent Lunches and raised so much money for good causes during Lent – thank you and well done!

Looking ahead to the end of the month, I am looking forward to welcoming a trainee Reader from Flore parish, Paul Minton, who will be joining us for six weeks on placement starting on April 26th. Please look out for him and make him welcome. He'll be visiting lots of our services and events, during the week as well as on Sundays.

And just beyond that, on May 3<sup>rd</sup> we'll have our annual parochial church meeting – the church equivalent of an AGM. This meeting includes elections for churchwardens and for members of the Deanery Synod and the PCC. Do think about whether this is something you might do. The Deanery Synod is the group of reps for Anglican churches from across the town. We meet to support and learn from each other and to hear from the wider diocese. This year deanery synod members are also the people who vote in the election for the General Synod – so if you want a say in who represents us at national level, you

need to be on Deanery Synod! Deanery Synod members are also ex officio PCC members.

If you would like to know more about deanery synod or the PCC do speak to me, to John Fazackerley, our Lay Chair, or to Clare Pearce, who as well as being our Director of Music and a ministry team member is also Deanery Lay Chair.

May the risen Lord bless you

*Beverley*

*Vision update*   
*How we're making our vision happen*

### VISIT TO PETERBOROUGH CATHEDRAL WITH WFPS

I had the privilege of visiting Peterborough Cathedral with 60 WFPS Year 3 this week.



Most of the children had never been to a Cathedral before. We stood outside and spent a few minutes just looking at the front. The children were amazed at its size.

We spent the morning doing 'Experience Easter'. We walked the Palm Road and thought about the hopes and dreams of the people who greeted Jesus with cries of Hosanna. We then thought about our own hopes and dreams.

Other stations were Jesus washing his disciples' feet, the Last Supper, Jesus praying in Gethsemane and dying on the cross.

We then thought about the empty tomb, the Resurrection and the Christian hope this gives us.

After lunch in the nice warm visitor centre, we spent time learning about Catherine of Aragon, and how big stone abbeys were built (we built an arch then took the supports out).

Finally, we learnt about the Benedictine values of Welcome, Worship, Learning and Service. This was followed by a brief time of worship in the nave before we headed back to school.

The children were extremely well behaved and learned a great deal.

Well done to all the staff and Canon Beverley who had worked hard with the Cathedral schools' team to set up this very busy visit.

**Revd Dr Hilary Halstead**

## Good Friday Family Event



Friday April 3<sup>rd</sup> is Good Friday and we will be holding our annual Family Event between 10-12 in the Church Hall. This is a chance to engage with the Passion Story from Palm Sunday through to Easter

Day. We do this through a series of reflective stations and fun activities.

We all help to build our Easter Garden that moves outside to the West end of the



church next to the tower. We also offer hot and cold drinks and hot cross buns. All are welcome to come along and join the fun. There are always lots of crafts to do and bring home.

## Bible verse of the month

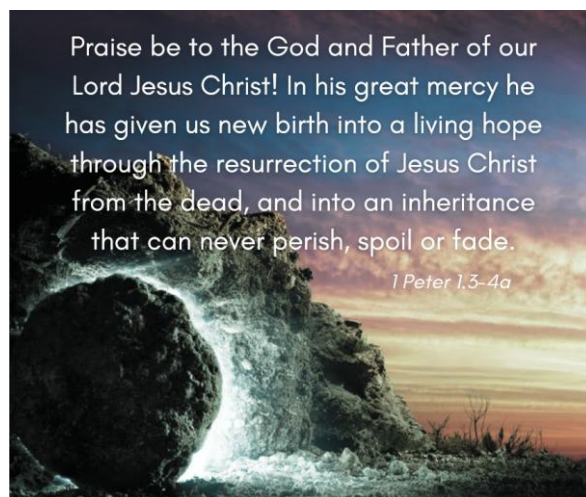


The Lord is risen! He is risen indeed – alleluia!

I wonder how often we take the very familiar story of the resurrection of our Lord for granted. Losing the wonder, the utter awesomeness of it. He was dead and now he is alive! And not only that, but because he died and rose again, we have the same hope, a hope that gives us confidence that beyond these numbered mortal days is a wondrous prospect: eternal life in the Father's House, eternal joy, eternal peace.

When this world is dark and dangerous, when our personal lives feel like a struggle, this hope can carry us. This world may perish, spoil or fade, but the brightness of God's glory will not, and nor will our lives with God.

We truly have reason to sing alleluia, however dark the day might feel. Praise be to God!



## Electoral Roll and Annual Meetings 2026

If you would like to be on the Electoral Roll of the Church and are not already on it, please contact the office for a form or collect one from the back of the church. Deadline is 16 April for return. Existing members need not apply.

Our Annual Meetings this year will be on 3 May in Church after the 10am service. We will have a short meeting (for those on the Electoral Roll and anyone resident in the

parish) to elect two churchwardens and then a longer meeting (for those people on the Electoral Roll) for elections to Deanery Synod and the PCC together with receiving various reports and the accounts. We have four vacancies for the Deanery synod and five for the PCC.

Look out for emails in the middle of April encouraging you to stand and giving more details as to what is involved.

**John Fazackerley**  
**Lay Vice Chair of PCC**

### **The Big Frieze**

Over the past three months during our All Age services you will have heard Canon Beverley refer to 'The Big Frieze'. The more observant amongst you will have noticed a new piece of artwork on the wall at the far end of the church hall - our copy of 'The Big Frieze'. So, you may be wondering what it is.

'The Big Frieze' is a 1.7 metre wall frieze commissioned by the Church of England and designed by artist Emma Yarlett that uses art to tell the story of the Bible. It consists of panels which illustrate the core concepts that are explored throughout the Understanding Christianity materials used in schools. The aim is to help children make sense of these core concepts and learn how they fit with the biblical narrative.

The different panels focus on Creation, the Fall, People of God, Incarnation, the Gospel, Salvation and the Kingdom of God.



**Can you make a donation  
to St Peter's?**  
**Use your smartphone camera to connect  
using this QR code, or contact the office for  
more information.**

What I find very impressive is how the children at Weston Favell Primary School when given a bible reference during Collective Worship, are able to show where it fits in 'The Big Frieze'. You will have noticed how skilled they are at this when they have answered Canon Beverley's questions in church services.

When it was first introduced at the school the children spent an afternoon producing their own artwork to illustrate the concepts. Each class focused on a different aspect – the results were wonderfully creative and it was a privilege to be able to talk to the children about their ideas and see their work.

Next time you are in the church hall, do spend some time studying this amazing piece of artwork as there is an incredible amount of detail in it.

**Clare Pearce**

## Greenbelt 2026



This year's Greenbelt Festival takes place from the 27<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> August at Boughton House. If you haven't been before, do consider going this year as being part of it is an amazing experience.

It is well known as a family-friendly intergenerational event, rooted in Christianity, with a wide range of activities including music, theatre, comedy, worship, workshops and talks. There are stalls to browse and plenty of options for food and drink.



Weekend tickets are already available, day tickets go on sale in May. Sadly, after ten years, this is the last year the festival will take place at Boughton House. A new venue is yet to be found and it is possible the festival will take a break in 2027. All the more reason to make the most of it being held so close to us and go this year!

### Life Groups:

If you are interested in joining a Life Group, contact Wendy Wheeler, 07711 828985

## GIVING IN LENT

For the last 30 or more years at St Peter's we have developed a particular pattern of opportunities for giving in Lent. In the Christian Church, in recognition of the huge sacrifice made by our Saviour Jesus Christ on the cross, and in resisting the temptations of the Devil, there has always been a tradition that some sacrifice on our part, however small, is the least we can do, to demonstrate our faith and thanksgiving. In recent years, rather than fasting, people have been more likely to give up chocolate or alcohol.

The Charitable Enterprise Committee has chosen the Alzheimer's Society this year to benefit from our Lent Appeal.



Many of you are aware that there are friends in the St Peter's family affected by Alzheimer's disease and other forms of dementia. You may already have cause to know what wonderful support the charity offers to both those afflicted and their carers. It also sponsors research into causes, medication to relieve suffering, and potential cures. All your donations, however small, will add up to further support for their work. At the back of the church there are **envelopes** which you can use for your donations, which give the opportunity for authorising gift aid. These, or your own envelopes, suitably labelled with the necessary information, can be handed into the church office or the postbox under the window. We prefer you to avoid cheques, as these incur an extra cost. Some people find it easier to do a **bank transfer**:- PCC of Weston Favell, 20-61-51, 20345229 with the reference LENTAPPGA - the GA indicating you authorise Gift Aid. If your name isn't clear on the account, you might need to add that to the reference. Thank you in anticipation of your usual generous support.

**Rosemary Pestell, on behalf of the PCC's Charitable Enterprise Committee**



### **Holy Wednesday April 1<sup>st</sup> 10am – Holy Communion**

Our midweek service draws us to the story of Judas, remembered on this 'Spy Wednesday'.

### **Holy Wednesday 7pm – Tenebrae**

The word 'Tenebrae' means darkness or shadows. As we come to the end of Lent, we begin a journey into darkness to a place of deep shadows. This is characterised



through this atmospheric service by the gradual extinguishing of candles to symbolise the approach of darkness and Christ's suffering. The service ends with the final candle being hidden as Jesus' body was hidden in the shadows of the tomb.

### **Maundy Thursday April 2<sup>nd</sup> 7pm – Communion of the Last Supper with vigil**

We remember the Lord's words to his disciples as they shared their final meal together, as we share in bread and wine and in washing of feet. The service ends with the removal of all decorations from the church.



Afterwards those who wish to can stay on (or come and join us if you haven't been able to get to church earlier) for a silent vigil ending with compline at 8.45pm.

### **Good Friday April 3<sup>rd</sup> 10am-12pm- Family Event in the Church Hall**

Join us as we explore events from Palm Sunday to Easter Day with crafts, storytelling and reflective activities. There is lots to do and to see including making the Easter

Garden. Refreshments of course include hot cross buns.

### **Good Friday 2pm – the Service of the Cross**

This solemn service offers time to enter into the events of the Passion, listening to the passion reading from John's gospel and leaving in silence at the end of the service to continue our reflection on this greatest of sacrifices.

### **Easter Day April 5<sup>th</sup> 6.30am – Sunrise Service**

For the early risers, a chance to gather on Peter's Patch and see the Easter Fire, listening to the story of Mary Magdalene's early morning encounter with the risen Jesus, before going into church to light the new paschal candle.

This service is followed by breakfast in the church hall.

### **Easter Day 8am**

The first communion of Easter

### **Easter Day 10am**

This service begins outside with the blessing of the Easter garden, before continuing celebration of the resurrection of our Lord with a joyful communion for all.

***Celebrations continue on Easter Monday with an Easter Egg hunt organised by the WFVRA, starting at the Church Hall at 10am. Thanks to the members of the residents' association for organising this fun event for all.***



**EASTER EGG HUNT** (free entry)

**MONDAY 6<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2026 10am – 11am**

**REFRESHMENTS** (£1.50 pp cash preferred) and children's activities in the Church Hall



### ECO TIP FOR APRIL

**Celebrate new life this Easter and have a go at growing something! April is the perfect time to try to grow something edible or, if you are a seasoned gardener, to encourage someone else to try. Salad leaves or herbs are a great place to start and will reduce your reliance on those oh-so-convenient supermarket salad bags. For indoor space, try 'micro-greens' (vegetable leaves harvested soon after they open) For greenhouses, try sowing salad leaf seed mixes. For outdoors, beetroot, lettuce, onion and pea plants are frost-resistant so can all be planted outside in April. As you sow, thank God for the opportunity to grow food, and pray for those communities that are facing food shortages and famine.**



### Committee Update *News from the groups that make us tick!*

### 9<sup>th</sup> MAY LUNCH FOR CHRISTIAN AID

Do please join us for lunch in the Church Hall at noon on 9<sup>th</sup> May to launch Christian Aid Week 2026. We would like you to bring your own simple main course, such as sandwiches or a salad. We will provide an array of tempting desserts, plus tea or coffee, for which we will ask you to make a generous donation for Christian Aid. There will be the usual fun of the raffle and the opportunity for fellowship with friends old and new, as well hearing about the valuable work of the charity and the difference your donations can make to people's lives in poorer and troubled areas of the world. Should you wish to make a contactless payment rather than giving cash, there will be an opportunity to do so.

**Pastoral Concern?** If you or someone you know need support, or communion at home or in hospital, please call Sue or Canon Beverley  
**Anna Chaplain and Lay Pastors' Coordinator**  
Sue Pinington, 07710 774990



If you're unable to come to the lunch but would like to make a donation to Christian Aid, you can give it to Cathy in the Church Office, in a clearly marked envelope, with your name and whether you authorise gift aid. Alternatively, you can do a bank transfer to PCC of Weston Favell, 20 - 61 - 51, account number 20345229, with the reference CHRAIDGA - the GA indicating that gift aid can be claimed. If your identity isn't clear then please send an email to [stpeterswestonfavell@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:stpeterswestonfavell@yahoo.co.uk), confirming your donation.

All are welcome and we look forward to seeing you.

**Rosemary Pestell, on behalf of the Charitable Enterprise Committee of the PCC.**

### Organ Recital

Our talented organist, Chris Benton, is performing an Organ Recital on

Saturday 25th April 11.30am

at

St Mary's Church, Higham Ferrers NN10 8BT

The recital will be around 40/45 minutes in length and entry is free!

There is also a Farmers Market on that day and the Bede House next to the church will be open between 9.30am to 12.30pm selling coffee/cake.

Do come along to support Chris!



### Contact Us

The Church Office in the Church Hall is open on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays (term time) 9am-12pm.

#### Parish Administrator:

Cathy de Maid 01604 787117  
[stpeterswestonfavell@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:stpeterswestonfavell@yahoo.co.uk)

**Website** [www.achurchnearyou.com/church/16484](http://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/16484) **or find us on Facebook** search 'St Peter's, Weston Favell'