

# PARISH NEWSLETTER

EASTER

**“Alleluia! Christ is risen.  
He is risen indeed. Alleluia!”**



**MAUNDY THURSDAY AGAPE MEAL:**

Do be encouraged to come and join us on Thursday 2 April at 7.30 pm in Warton Parish Room for a service of Holy Communion and simple supper as we gather to commemorate Jesus’ final meal with his disciples.

**GOOD FRIDAY:**

Please feel welcome to join us at 2 pm on Friday 3 April in Seckington Church for a service of meditation recalling the most solemn moment of the Easter story, Jesus’ final hour on the cross. A further opportunity for reflection and worship will take place at 7 pm in Shuttington Church.

**EASTER DAY:**

Our celebrations of Jesus’ resurrection begin at 8.30 am with a service of Holy Communion at Austrey, followed by Family Communion at 10.30 am at Newton Regis when we will also rejoice with the Fletcher family as Otilie is baptised. We will round off the day with a service of Easter Praise at 6 pm at Warton. All are welcome at any or all of the services!

**Services and Readings**

**Apr 02 Maundy Thursday**

1 Corinthians 11 : 23 – 26

John 13 : 1 – 17, 31b – 35

7.30 pm WARTON

Agape Meal + Service

**Apr 03 Good Friday**

Passion Narrative :

John 18 : 1 – 19 : 42

2.00 – 3.00 pm SECKINGTON

Meditation by the Cross

7.00 – 8.00 pm SHUTTINGTON

Good Friday Meditation

**Apr 05 Easter Day**

Acts 10 : 34 – 43

John 20 : 1 – 18

8.30 am AUSTREY

Holy Communion

10.30 am NEWTON REGIS

Easter Family Communion +

Baptism

6.00 pm WARTON

Easter Praise

**Apr 12 2nd Sunday of Easter**

Acts 2 : 14a, 22-32

John 20 : 19 – 31

10.30 am WARTON

Family Worship

No Evening Service

**Apr 19 3rd Sunday of Easter**

Acts 2 : 14a, 36-41

Luke 24 : 13 – 35 10.30 am

AUSTREY

Family Service + Baptism

6.00 pm NEWTON REGIS

Evening Prayer

Continued over

**Mission Partner for April**

**Bethesda Leprosy Hospital**

We continue to pray for all at Bethesda as they live and work trusting in the Lord, serving those suffering from leprosy, HIV and AIDS in the name and love of Jesus while mourning the loss of their long-serving Chairman Mr Kuntla Satyanarayanan.

## Services Continued

### Apr 26 4th Sunday of Easter

Acts 2 : 42 – 47 John 10 : 1 – 10

8.30 am WARTON Holy  
Communion (BCP)

10.30 am SECKINGTON  
Family Worship

6.00 pm SHUTTINGTON  
Evening Prayer

### May 03 5th Sunday of Easter

Acts 7 : 55 – 60 John 14 : 1 – 14

8.30am AUSTREY Holy  
Communion

10.30 am NEWTON REGIS  
Family Worship

6.00 pm WARTON Holy  
Communion

**Prayers for the world:** we continue to pray for an end to conflict throughout the world for an end to the suffering and devastation caused by war, especially in Ukraine and the countries of the Middle East. We pray for urgent action to mitigate the effects of climate change, for targets to reduce emissions to be upheld. We pray for all suffering the consequences of global warming and natural disasters and ask your blessing on all agencies working to help the vulnerable and the needy, including Christian Aid, Mission Aviation Fellowship, Crosslinks, Bethesda Leprosy Hospital and Birmingham City Mission.

**Prayers for the nation:** we pray for Charles our King and all members of the Royal Family as they seek to preserve the integrity of the monarchy. We pray for our government to exercise wisdom and discernment and to take positive action to help those struggling financially, mentally or socially. We continue to give thanks for the selfless dedication of all NHS and care workers, as they deal with the nation's health needs, praying for their safety and protection.

**Prayers for the Church:** we pray for the Church and its leaders seeking to convey the good news of the gospel in a world facing challenges on so many fronts. We pray that the message of Easter will be a source of comfort and hope to many. We pray for our Parish of All Souls, for Joanne, the churchwardens and members of the PCC, for all our church family, as we play our part in sharing the message of Jesus' love and God's salvation .

**Prayers our Community:** we pray for all those who reside or work in our parish, that you would continue to bless and protect them in their daily lives. We pray especially for all the staff and children in our 3 village schools as they embark on their Easter break.

**Prayers for the sick and bereaved:** we ask for God's love and healing touch to surround all who are ill or in pain at this time, that they might know his loving presence and find healing and peace in the midst of their adversity. We pray for all who mourn at this difficult time, asking that God would comfort all who are weighed down with grief, support and reassure them in the difficult days to come.



## You and your energy

Energy is rarely out of the news, affecting both our household budgets and the health of our planet. Burning coal, oil and gas releases carbon dioxide, a major driver of climate change and ocean acidification, which in turn threaten biodiversity. Global emissions remain high, and while large nations contribute significantly, it is easy to feel powerless or assume the problem lies elsewhere.

Yet small, thoughtful changes can make a real difference. We can reduce our own energy use, cut costs and lower our carbon footprint without drastically altering our lifestyles. Modern technology plays a hidden role: cloud storage and streaming services consume vast amounts of energy through data centres. Deleting unwanted files, duplicate or out of focus photos, and being mindful of online habits can help reduce this impact.

At home, simple steps are often the most effective. Using smart heating controls, turning down thermostats, and avoiding wasted energy can lead to noticeable savings. Many of these habits echo earlier generations' careful use of resources. By making modest adjustments and encouraging wider change, we can all play a part in caring for creation and safeguarding the future.

**“The Lord God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it.” (Genesis 2 : 15)**



**Puzzle**

Unscramble these letters to find words from the story.

glane \_\_\_\_\_

motb \_\_\_\_\_

thear \_\_\_\_\_

scrade \_\_\_\_\_

egertsing \_\_\_\_\_

dundesly \_\_\_\_\_



Can you find these words in the word search?

- bread
- Cleopas
- Emmaus
- Jerusalem
- Jesus
- walk

f	f	w	C	l	e	o	p	a	s
p	J	v	i	p	p	d	g	E	v
w	e	e	n	b	m	k	l	m	l
h	s	c	s	z	s	d	g	m	e
i	g	j	k	u	m	b	e	a	h
p	s	d	s	e	s	r	y	u	u
w	s	l	y	m	v	e	o	s	e
h	J	e	r	u	s	a	l	e	m
k	l	a	w	f	d	d	w	w	e

**WHAT'S ON:**

**FUTURE DATES:**

Thurs 2 April	2 – 4.00 pm	Coffee & Chat in Warton Parish Room
Thurs 2 April	7.30 pm	Agape Meal + Service in Warton Parish Room
Mon 13 April	7.30 pm	All Souls PCC meeting
Thurs 16 April	2 – 4.00 pm	Coffee & Chat in Warton Parish Room
Fri 17 April	7.30 pm	Concert with Diamond Harmony at Seckington
Sat 18 April	10.30am	Walk-in Coffee Morning in Austrey Church

**ALL SOULS ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING:**

This year's APCM will be held on Sunday 17 May as part of the 10.30 am service in Austrey Church, when in addition to reviewing the past year we will be appointing churchwardens, PCC members and up to 4 Deanery Synod representatives. The latter are elected for a 3 year term, starting in July 2026. There are 3 meetings per year and it is an opportunity to build relationships with members of local churches in our area. Please consider whether you can offer your services to the parish in any way, not only in an official capacity but assistance with cleaning, flower arranging, refreshments, as well as reading the lesson at services and leading prayers.

**ALL SOULS NEEDS YOU!**

**CHURCH FINANCES :**

As our finances begin to show some signs of recovery, the All Souls PCC has committed to paying £30,000 to the Diocese as its share of Common Fund for the year 2026, although this by no means meets the full cost of having a vicar in post. Your continued support and generosity will therefore be deeply appreciated given our insurance costs have risen by about £700 and other price rises are likely in the coming months.

For up to date information please consult **A Church Near You** or your local church noticeboard.

Interested in a Baptism, wedding, blessing, or a funeral, or a memorial service?  
 Contact the Rector,  
 Revd. Joanne Dyer  
 rector\_all\_souls@btinternet.com  
 07596933488

“For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.” (John 3 : 16)

## Gardening, Growth, and the Hope of Easter

There is something quietly miraculous about a garden. As the days have improved I have felt drawn to ours, noticing what is pushing up through the hard ground.

Through the long months of winter, the soil can look lifeless — cold, bare, and unpromising. Yet beneath the surface, unseen work is taking place. Roots are forming. Bulbs are waiting. Life is gathering strength.

Then spring comes.

Shoots push through the earth. Blossom appears on branches that seemed dry and brittle. What looked like an ending turns out to be a beginning.

At the heart of the Christian faith is this same pattern. Easter tells the story of new life emerging from what seemed like defeat. The death and resurrection of Jesus speak of hope that does not deny the reality of hardship, but insists that it is not the final word. Christians believe that, just as a seed must be buried before it grows, love is stronger than loss and life is stronger than death.

But you don't have to call yourself religious to recognise the truth written into the natural world. Anyone who has planted a seed — or simply watched spring unfold — knows the quiet courage of growth. Gardens teach us patience. They teach trust. They remind us that transformation often happens out of sight before it becomes visible.

In these spring and early summer months, as gardens begin to flourish, perhaps they invite us to ask: what might be growing in us? What needs tending? What hope have we almost given up on that might, with care, come back to life?

A garden also reminds us that growth is rarely instant or effortless. There are weeds to clear, dry spells to endure, and times when progress feels slow. Yet even then, life has not stopped. With a little attention — a bit of water, light, and care — things can recover in ways we might not expect.

Easter is not only a date in the calendar. It is a way of seeing the world — noticing that renewal is possible, even after the hardest seasons.

As blossoms open and days grow lighter, may this season bring space for rest, growth, and perhaps a little resurrection of your own.

Blessings

Rev'd Joanne

