

# Lawton Light!

Church Lawton Parish Magazine

April 2026

50p

*Alleluia Christ is Risen!  
He is risen indeed Alleluia!*



***Therefore Jesus said again, "Very truly I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. All who have come before me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep have not listened to them. I am the gate; whoever enters through me will be saved. They will come in and go out, and find pasture.***

*John 10:7-10*



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# LAWTON LIGHT! Who's Who at All Saints'?

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	Bev Boulton**	Tel:01270 874491
Church Wardens	Jane Baker	Tel:01270 876363
	Bev Boulton	Tel:01270 874491
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PCC Secretary	Helen Mottram	Tel:01782782598
Treasurer PCC	Yvonne Banks	Tel:01782 782571
Messy Church	Kirsty Hicks	Tel:07463918857
Lawton Light!	Jane Baker	Tel:01270 876363
Musical Director	Margaret Cruxton	Tel:01270 876366
Parish Visitor	Bev Nixon	Via Mob: 07473 355646

**\*\* Members of our team are very pleased to visit you in your home, to listen to you, talk with you, and pray with you. Nothing is too trivial, and nothing is beyond the reach of God's love and grace.**

**All you have to do is pick up the telephone and call.**

**We will be delighted to hear from you, and respond to your need.**



**Please scan me to donate  
to help maintain our  
church**



# April Letter

Dear friends,

This month begins with the most momentous and eventful days in the Christian calendar as we move through Holy Week to Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Holy Saturday and finally Easter Sunday. But what is important about each of them, and why do Christians regard them as foundational to their faith?



Maundy Thursday is the day when Jesus and his disciples gathered to celebrate the Passover meal together in Jerusalem. This meal was first eaten by the enslaved people of Israel in Egypt on their journey to freedom, led by Moses, through the wilderness to the Promised Land. Jesus leads with humility as he takes the role of servant, filling a bowl with water, putting a towel around his waist and washing the dirty, dusty feet of everyone present.

As they end the meal, Jesus takes bread and wine, and after giving thanks, he gives it to his disciples

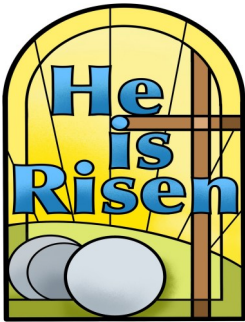
saying this is my body, broken for you; this is my blood poured out for you. With these words Jesus draws on the rich traditions of Passover and gives us a new promise or covenant of freedom; freedom from sin through the self-sacrifice he will make the next day. When we share bread and wine, his body and his blood, we echo this meal. The day ends with his betrayal by Judas and arrest by the religious authorities.

Good Friday is the day of Jesus' trial, sentence, scourging, death by crucifixion and burial. Given these events, it may seem odd that we call it "Good". And yet Jesus' death on the cross is the best news for us, because it means he has met the cost of our redemption, freeing us from our sin or wrongdoing, and restoring our relationship with God the Father.

Holy Saturday is an important day because nothing happened! That's right, to all intents and purposes, nothing took place. The disciples mourned for their friend and leader, they spent the day watching and waiting, not sure about the meaning of everything that had happened and fearful that the authorities who killed Jesus would arrest them too. As they longed for understanding and resolution they provide us with a pattern for our own times of grieving

and uncertainty, watching and waiting, fear and longing.

Easter Sunday is the crescendo and culmination of it all. At dawn Jesus bursts forth from the tomb, no longer dead but gloriously alive. His resurrected body is first witnessed by Mary Magdalene and then two other disciples on the road to Emmaus. They attest they have seen Jesus, who has conquered sin and death and hell, with the marks of the nails still present in his hands as the emblems of his victory. And because he lives, we shall live also.



I do hope you will be able to join us for the services over this period and journey with us through these days of transformation through sorrow and waiting to joy. You'll find details of our services on page 22.

May the blessing and joy of Jesus' resurrection be with you and those you love this Easter,

Heather

## Resurrection

*(John 20:1-18)*

Even in the darkness  
Still she went,  
Stumbling, longing for light,  
Finding a stone-moved  
emptiness.

Then her running  
And the running and out-running  
of the men,  
The believing whilst not  
understanding,  
The tears and the angels with  
questions and messages.

Death transformed to Life  
In the turning,  
And revelation in a name,  
*Mary!*

Lord, sometimes I don't  
understand  
And the world seems dark,  
But I choose to turn from  
darkness to You.

Speak *my* name Lord,  
Hold me safe  
In Your resurrection power and  
light.

*By Daphne Kitching*

## Electoral Roll



**Belong**



**Participate**



**Contribute**

## Come and join us!

Our church Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) will be at All Saints' Church on **Sunday 26th April** following the 10.45am service

As part of our preparation for this meeting we have to revise our Church Electoral Roll – our official membership list.

Anyone wishing their names to be included on our Electoral Roll and who, where necessary, has worshipped with us during the previous six months, is welcome to complete an application form for inclusion on the Electoral Roll **by 5th April** The forms are available in church from 22nd March

A copy of the **revised Electoral Roll** will be displayed at All Saints'

Church on **12th April** for the two weeks leading up to the APCM.

The APCM is an important event in our church calendar. We review the year past, receive the accounts from our treasurer and elect our Churchwardens and members of the Parochial Church Council.

The APCM is an opportunity for us to thank God for what he has done and for what he continues to do in us and through us, and to express our appreciation to those who have done the bulk of the hard work in running our church.

Our Ministry team with the Churchwardens, Treasurer and PCC members have worked very hard this year and we would value your attendance on **26th April** as we present our reports to you and look towards to our future together.

## Electoral Roll



**Belong**



**Participate**



**Contribute**



**12th April**  
**9.00 am**  
**The Resurrection**



In Messy Church children and their parents/carers have fun learning about the Christian faith together through different activities—crafts, cooking, games, songs...

**If you would like to know more about Messy Church please contact:  
Kirsty Hicks 07463918857**

**Or come along on the day.**



# Meru's Musings Remembered...

## Teasers

Q: Throw away the outside and cook the inside, then eat the outside and throw away the inside. What is it?

Q: What is at the end of a rainbow?

Q: What kind of tree can you carry in your hand?

Q: They come out at night without being called, and are lost in the day without being stolen.

What are they?

Q: What is always in front of you, but can't be seen?

## Inspirational quotes by Gandhi

1. Live as if you were to die tomorrow. Learn as if you were to live forever.
2. The weak can never forgive. Forgiveness is the attribute of the strong.
3. First they ignore you, then they laugh at you, then they fight you, then you win.
4. The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others.
5. You must be the change you wish to see in the world.
6. An eye for an eye only ends up making the whole world blind.
7. Whatever you do will be insignificant. But it is very important that you do it.
8. Nobody can hurt you without your permission.
9. Our greatness lies not so much in

being able to remake the world but being able to remake ourselves.

10. What we are doing to the forests of the world is but a mirror reflection of what we are doing to ourselves and to one another."

11. Strength does not come from physical capacity. It comes from an indomitable will.

12. In a gentle way, you can shake the world.

13. There is a sufficiency in the world for man's need but not for man's greed.

14. You can chain me, you can torture me, you can even destroy my body, but you will never imprison my mind.

15. Man becomes great exactly in the degree in which he works for the welfare of his fellow-men.

16. Even if you are a minority of one, the truth is the truth.

17. The future depends on what you do today.

18. No culture can live if it attempts to be exclusive.

19. It is my conviction that nothing enduring can be built on violence.

20. My religion is based on truth and non-violence. Truth is my God. Non-violence is the means of realising Him.

21. In matters of conscience, the law of the majority has no place.

22. Non-cooperation with evil is as much a duty as is cooperation with good.

23. I am prepared to die, but there is no cause for which I am prepared to kill.

**Meru Ullah**

## Breakfast – with Jesus Christ



“It is the Lord!” (John 21:7) There is something very reassuring in the simple scene by Galilee’s lake, described on that

post-Easter morning. Taking place there was the birth of a mighty world-wide adventure that has not ended yet! Was there ever a breakfast like it? They’d been fishing all night, but in vain.... until they heard a distant call from the shore: “How are you doing, guys?”

There is even the little detail in the instructions from the beach that it was to be on the right side of the boat that the net should be thrown out this time.

That Stranger. That voice! Suddenly the net was full of wriggling fish. It was like coming in at the start of the film again – (see Luke 5:6). Then Peter’s hundred-yard splash to the shore... the charcoal fire and ‘large’ tilapia fish. Then the typical action of fishermen in counting the catch. How the Bible teems with stories.

And now breakfast on the beach, with Jesus Christ! It was a re-commissioning for the apostle

Peter, who only days earlier had denied any knowledge of Jesus. From now on it would be different. “Feed my sheep,” said Jesus.

1..Whose call but Christ’s call? Peter would never be the same again. Those who have truly heard the call of Christ, will still be standing firm when revolutions explode, when finances plunge, when a church falls apart, when a country falls apart.

2.Whose word but Christ’s word? ‘Feed my sheep,’ were His words. Whoever we may be teaching, Christ’s servant is to see to it that what is taught is Christ’s word and not one’s own. The power that brings forgiveness and resurrection life can only come from one source!

3.Whose flock, but Christ’s flock? ‘MY lambs... MY sheep’ – they were never ours! Realise this – and so much of the conflicts that can occur between the friends of Jesus will cease overnight.

Can you smell the tilapia fish grilling on that little fire by Galilee’s beach? The Stranger on the shore is calling YOU. Along with John, dripping wet in the boat, recognise that He is no stranger. “It is the Lord.”

***How post-Easter can be a time of  
re-commissioning....***

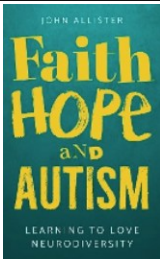
# From the Registers

## Church Collections for February 2026

Week Beginning	2nd Feb	£1,187.49
Week Beginning	9th Feb	£1,071.63
Week Beginning	16th Feb	£715.70
Week Beginning	23th Feb	£551.05

Our thanks to everyone who has helped us by giving faithfully and generously towards our costs of mission, ministry and maintenance.

During this unprecedented challenging time, you can also keep up to date via our website where you can find out about our worship, church life, giving and accessing our monthly parish magazine.



## Book Review

**Faith, Hope and Autism – learning to love neurodiversity**  
By John Allister, Canterbury Press, £16.99

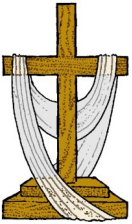
What does church feel like if you're autistic? And how can churches become places where autistic people truly belong?

John Allister – a Church of England vicar who is also autistic – shares honest stories, practical insights, and heartfelt letters to his younger self. He opens up a window into the joys and challenges of growing up autistic, discovering faith, and finding a place in the church.

Blending personal experience with down-to-earth guidance, John helps readers understand how autistic people experience the world, why inclusion matters, and what real welcome can look like. This book is for anyone who wants their church to be more open, kind, and full of belonging – whether you're a church leader, have an autistic friend or family member, or are autistic yourself. Warm, witty, and deeply human, Faith, Hope and Autism is a powerful invitation to see the church – and each other – differently.

# Reflected Faith Series: Same Old, Same Old

It's important that you listen carefully to your own internal thoughts and feelings before and after listening to a sermon – be it in church live or on a video or broadcast.



Well, here we are at Easter – and guess what the sermon subject is likely to be?

Christ is risen – He is risen indeed!

In so many ways it really could be 'same old, same old' and the preacher could just repeat last year's sermon. Let's face it, nothing will have changed in the Easter story in the last 12 months.

Or has it? For me, and I suspect for most folks, 12 months can be a 'long' time; and things change in our lives. Babies are born, youngsters change school, teenagers leave school, young people move out, friends die, accidents happen, and pains and sorrows come and go.

Around all of that personal business the world turns: there are holidays, seasons, catastrophes, people hurting people, people caring for others and on and on it goes.

Things might repeat but they are never truly 'the same'.

So it is with the Easter story. Christ is risen – He is risen indeed! Really? In the midst of my life and the world around me? In the centre of your life and your community?

Is it any less amazing today than it was last year, or the year before, or a decade previously or when the women went to the tomb that first Resurrection Day?

In so many ways I need to hear this story again – but anew. New, not just because the preacher will (hopefully) have made it register with what's happening around my small community today and new because I am not the same person I was a year ago – for better or worse!

I shall hear those words differently this year than ever before. Christ is risen – He is risen indeed!

This month

Before you listen to this year's Easter Sermon, think about the changes you've had in your life since last year and the world around us. How much more do you need a living Christ today? May you say in your depths, with me: Christ is risen – He is risen indeed!

*The Revd Dr Jo White*



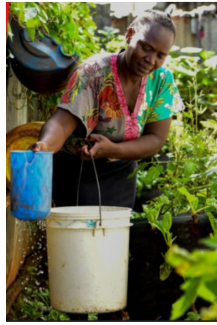
## Christian Aid Week 10th to 16th May 2026

### Where hardship means hunger...urban farmers can grow hope.

Imagine walking every morning knowing if you don't earn money today, your family will go hungry tonight. With no formal work opportunities, heartbreakingly low pay, high food prices and no social support, its impossible to plan ahead. This is urban poverty—the precarious, stressful life most people lead in the densely packed, sprawling informal settlement of Dagoretti in Nairobi, Kenya.

But thanks to a programme of support from Christian Aid's partner, Beacon of Hope, Fridah's nurturing seeds of change .

Beacon of hope is training aspiring urban farmers like Fridah to cultivate their own vegetables in small unused city spaces. Fridah:



*“At first, I didn't understand . I was wondering, where can someone farm here in Nairobi?”*

Training sessions cover farming

Fridah gardening techniques, such as pest management, compost production and seed cultivation, as well as business skills. Participants are supported with tools, seeds and plots they need to get started.



Fridah & her 3 sons

### Stand with Kenya

A debt crisis in Kenya is trapping people like Fridah. Kenya spends more paying back debt than it does on public services such as healthcare and education. The UK government has the power to introduce justice laws that could help tackle poverty in Kenya.

**Linda Jones**

**A huge thank you to those that took part in the Big Plastic Count.**  
 The amount of plastic recorded by 16 church members gives a fascinating insight as to just how much we use in our everyday lives.



## ALL SAINTS' CHURCH PLASTIC PROFILE

Your church isn't to blame for these results, so please don't feel bad. Most of us don't have a choice but to buy things wrapped in plastic. But your results are helping change things for the better. We now have the evidence we need to push the government to cut plastic packaging. Thank you for taking part!

IN ONE WEEK, YOUR CHURCH USED:

**759**  
 PIECES OF PLASTIC



OVER ONE YEAR, THAT'S:

**39468**  
 PIECES OF PLASTIC



HERE'S HOW MUCH PLASTIC PACKAGING YOUR CHURCH USED IN EACH CATEGORY:



**78%**  
 FOOD & DRINK



**10%**  
 TOILETRIES & CLEANING



**12%**  
 EVERYTHING ELSE

HERE'S WHAT HAPPENED TO YOUR CHURCH'S PLASTIC WASTE:



**17%**  
 WAS RECYCLED IN THE UK

Plastic breaks down when it's recycled and ends up being dumped, burned or exported anyway.



**58%**  
 WAS BURNED IN THE UK

Burning plastic causes air pollution, worsens climate change and impacts those living near burning sites.



**8%**  
 WAS DUMPED IN THE UK

When plastic is dumped in landfill it releases harmful gases and pollutes surrounding areas.



**17%**  
 WAS SHIPPED OVERSEAS

Exporting plastic simply passes the problem to other countries, affecting the health of local people.

# Laugh lines etcetera...

## From a church notice-sheet

This being Easter Sunday, we will ask Mrs Brown, our church warden, to come forward and lay an egg on the altar.

## Nice

The nice thing about becoming forgetful is that you can hide your own Easter eggs.



## Oh dear

The middle-aged curate shuffled along, bent over at the waist, as his wife helped him into the doctor's waiting room. He groaned at every step, and the receptionist eyed the scene with sympathy. "Arthritis in the back with complications?" she finally ventured.

The wife shook her head briskly. "Do-it-yourself in the garden,"

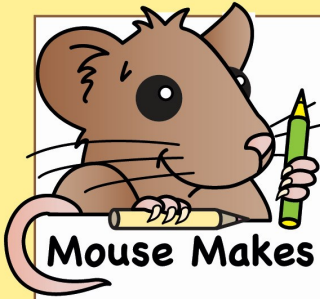
## Stargazing

I can see how astronomers figure out the distance of the stars and their size and temperatures and all that. What really gets me is how they find out what their names are!

## Speeding

A speeding motorist was caught by radar from a police helicopter in the sky. An officer pulled him over and began to issue a traffic ticket. "How did you know I was speeding?" the frustrated driver asked.

The police officer pointed soberly toward the sky. "You mean," asked the motorist, in awed confusion, "that now even God has installed speed cameras?"

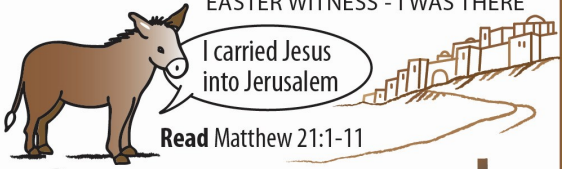


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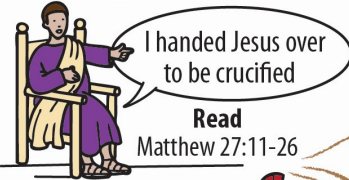
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 HOSANNA • PILATE • THORNS  
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 QUAKE • DEATH • BURY  
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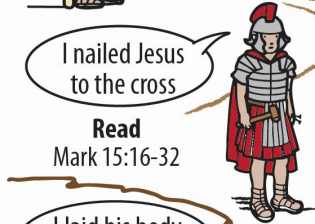
EASTER WITNESS - I WAS THERE



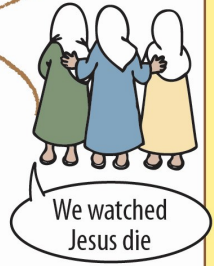
Read Matthew 21:1-11



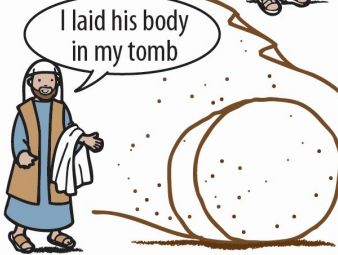
Read Matthew 27:11-26



Read Mark 15:16-32



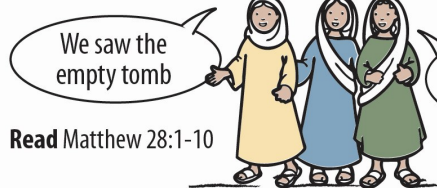
Read Mark 15:33-41



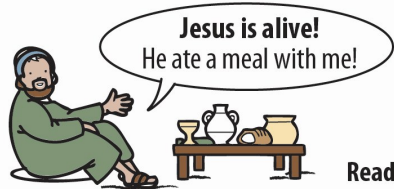
Read Mark 15:42-47



Read Matthew 27:62-66



Read Matthew 28:1-10



Read Luke 24:13-35

# Recycling & Green Living Tips

## Feed the birds: these are the best plants for birds that you can have in your garden

All it takes are a few things such as shelter, food, and water, to make birds feel at home in your garden. Gardening with birds in mind is so important these days when small birds are challenged by problems such as climate change, habitat challenges and bird flu.

### The best trees

Trees can have flowers, fruit and shelter. Some of these fruit at different times of the year which can help.

Amelanchier  
Holly  
Apple trees



### The best flowers

Sunflower  
Love in a mist  
Sedum  
Ornamental grasses  
Dandelions  
Thistles, including sea holly



## The best shrubs

Elder  
Lavender  
Cotoneaster  
Barbary

## Garden Problems Coffee Grounds May Help With



Don't throw away used coffee grounds. They can help your garden.

Used coffee grounds contain:

- \* Nitrogen (small but useful amounts)
- \* Organic matter
- \* Trace minerals like potassium and magnesium
- \* Natural compounds that affect soil biology

They are not highly acidic. Most used grounds are close to neutral in PH because much of the acidity is extracted during brewing.

## To avoid problems:

- Use only used (brewed) grounds
- Apply thin layers
- Mix into compost whenever possible
- Avoid forming dense mats on soil

- Monitor plant health
- Too much coffee ground application can:
- Create compacted crust
- Slow water penetration
- Tie up nitrogen temporarily

Balance is essential and this is what they help with

1. Poor Soil Structure
2. Nitrogen Deficiency in Plants
3. Slow Compost Breakdown
4. Slug and Snail Damage
5. Ant Activity
6. Weak Flowering in Certain Plants
7. Fungal Growth in Soil
8. Poor Water Retention in Sandy Soil



### Recycle dead batteries

Don't forget that any batteries you use must be recycled when they are dead. Shops which sell them have to offer a recycling bin. Most supermarkets have them. Small button batteries should also be recycled. Some are in watches and if you are getting a battery changed at a jewellers, they

should take the dead one for recycling.



### Use and recycle glass bottles

Glass can be recycled again and again without losing its strength or clarity. Unlike many materials that degrade with each cycle, glass retains its original properties when melted down and remade.

Old bottles and jars become molten glass, are reshaped into new products, and return to shelves with the same quality as before—making glass one of the few materials that can be recycled indefinitely without loss of performance. So use them in preference to single-use plastic bottles.



Happy Recycling

Carol Henshaw

# All Saints' Community Page



Pat, Jane and Karen enjoying a well earned drink made by Michael after digging along the fence finding many stones and objects



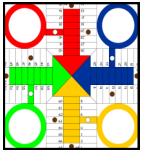
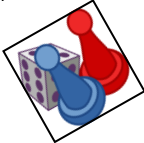
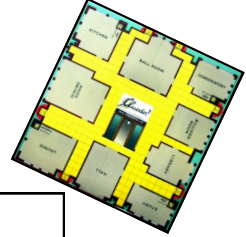
Michael had a busy morning, chatting with Jean and handing treats out to all the dogs who came by! Good job he made the drinks!



The rubbish bins at the front of church have come under a lot of pressure during March, with the final removal of Christmas and Mothering Sunday flowers. We have had to clear out the bins so that the lids would close ready for collection. We removed flowers and plants which should not be in the rubbish bins as these are compostable. In amongst all this we also found lots of plastic bleach bottles, some quite full and many, many cleaning cloths and wet wipes. We kindly ask that you take as much rubbish home with you, as in the Autumn these bins will only be collected every three weeks.

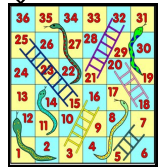
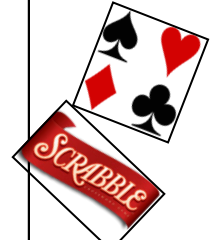
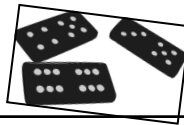


# All Saints' Community Page



Fancy a game of Logo,  
Dominoes, Rummikub, Snakes  
and Ladders,  
Ludo, Scrabble or other games.

**14th April 2pm**  
Enjoy a challenge or  
teach others.



## Diary Dates



**Saturday 16th May 10.30am to 12.30 pm**  
**Spring Fayre raising funds for churchyard Flora  
and Fauna signage board.**

## All Saints' Church Lawton is open daily

The church is open daily for private prayer 10am to 4pm.

Come in and spend a few quiet moments in the tranquil and peaceful setting. There is a prayer station at the front of the church or simply choose a pew.



## Morning Prayer at All Saints'

Rev Sister Heather Kemball warmly invites you to join her for Morning Prayer at 9.30am on Monday, Wednesday and Friday

## Midweek Communion at the Rectory

Commences after Easter on Wednesdays 15th April at 11am.

## Prayer Diary

Prayer Diary with the names of all those on the electoral roll to enable us to pray regularly for one another, is available in church.

## Prayer for April

Loving Father,

Thank you for Jesus; for His life and death, but most of all for His resurrection, which makes all things new and possible.

Thank you for the reality that He defeated death by His work on the Cross and offers life forever with Him to all who believe in Him and receive Him into their lives as Lord and Saviour. Thank you for that incomprehensible but very real resurrection peace that we can know even in our darkest times by the presence of your Holy Spirit in us. In joy and thankfulness, we praise and honour you this Eastertime. In Jesus' name.

Amen.

*By Daphne Kitching*

# Bible Readings for April Services

Date	Epistle	Gospel
2nd	Exodus 12:1-4, 11-14	John 13:1-17, 21-38
3rd	No reading	John 19:16a-30
5th	Colossians 3:1-4	John 20:1-18
12th	1 Peter 1: 3-9	John 20:19 - end
19th	1 Peter 1:17-23	Luke 24:13-35
26th	Acts 2: 42 to end	John 10: 1-10

## Teaser Answers

Q: Throw away the outside and cook the inside, then eat the outside and throw away the inside. What is it?

A: Corn on the cob.

Q: What is at the end of a rainbow?

A: The letter W!

Q: What kind of tree can you carry in your hand?

A: A palm!

Q: They come out at night without being called, and are lost in the day without being stolen.

What are they?

A: Stars!

Q: What is always in front of you, but can't be seen?

A: The future.



Please send any material for inclusion in the May Lawton Light!  
By 10th April

To Jane Baker  
Telephone 01270 876363 or email:  
editor@allsaintschurchlawton.co.uk

## Services & Speakers April 2026

	8.30am	10.45am	6.00pm
	<b>Maundy Thursday</b>		<b>7pm</b>
<b>2nd</b>			Holy Communion
			Heather Kemball
<b>3rd</b>	<b>Good Friday</b>		<b>10am</b>
		Family Service	
		Margaret Cruxton	
<b>5th</b>	<b>Easter Sunday</b>		
	Holy Communion	Holy Communion	Holy Communion
	Heather Kemball	Heather Kemball	Heather Kemball
<b>12th</b>	<b>Easter 1</b>		
		Praise & Prayer	Holy Communion
		Bev Boulton	Bev Boulton
<b>19th</b>	<b>Easter 2</b>		
	Holy Communion	Holy Communion	Evening Prayer
		Heather Kemball	Heather Kemball
<b>26th</b>	<b>Easter 3</b>		
		Praise & Prayer	Holy Communion
		Margaret Cruxton	Margaret Cruxton

## April 2026 Rotas

<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Service</b>	<b>Readers</b>	<b>Prayers</b>
2nd April Maundy Thursday	7pm	Holy Communion	Jane Baker Margaret Cruxton	Helen Mottram
3rd April	10am	Good Friday	Simon Pinkstone	Jane Baker
5th April Easter Sunday	8.30am	Holy Communion BCP		
	10.45am	Holy Communion CW	Pat Lancaster Janet Parker	Alan Kemball
	6.00pm	Holy Communion CW	Ken Newton Chris Preston	Harld Dowler
12th April	9.00am	Messy Church		
	10.45am	Praise & Prayer	Helen Mottram Ruth Griffiths	Margaret Cruxton
	6.00pm	Holy Communion cw	Chris Hollins Harold Dowler	
19th April	8.30am	Holy Communion CW		
	10.45am	Holy Communion CW	Di Williams Margaret Mellor	Ruth Griffiths
	6.00pm	Evening Prayer	Ken Newton Chris Preston	
26th April	10.45am	Praise & Prayer	Helen Mottram Paul Cruxton	Jane Baker
	6.00pm	Holy Communion BCP	Chris Hollins Harold Dowler	

## Lawton Memorial Hall



Church Lawton

07432 739313



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