

Parish of Curdworth, Middleton and Wishaw

NEWSLETTER

Sundays 29th March and 5th and 12th April 2026

Palm Sunday, Easter Day and 2nd Sunday of Easter



Welcome to this edition of the Newsletter

Sunday 29th March – Sixth Sunday of Lent – PALM SUNDAY

- Holy Communion at **9.30am** at **St Chad's, Wishaw** – Rev James Parry
- Procession from the Village Green **10.30am** Family Communion at **11.15am** at **St Nicholas', Curdworth** – The Rector
- Palm Sunday Reflections in Music and Words at **6.30pm** at **St John's, Middleton** – Rev James Parry

Sunday 5th April – EASTER DAY

- Family Communion at **9.30am** at **St Chad's, Wishaw** – The Rector
- Holy Communion at **11.15am** at **St Nicholas', Curdworth** – The Rector
- Holy Communion at **11.15am** at **St John's, Middleton** – Rev James Parry

Sunday 12th April – Second Sunday of Easter

- Holy Communion at **9.30am** at **St Chad's, Wishaw** –
Rev Canon Frank Longbottom

Sunday 19th April – Third Sunday of Easter

- Family Communion at **9.30am** at **St Chad's, Wishaw** - The Rector
- Service of the Word at **11.15am** at **St Nicholas', Curdworth** – Mrs Lisa Wilcox
- Holy Communion at **11.15am** at **St John's, Middleton** –
Rev Canon Frank Longbottom

DIARY

Date	Time	Event	Note
Sunday 29th March	9.30am	Holy Communion	St Chad's, Wishaw
6th Sunday of Lent	11.15am	Family Communion	St Nicholas', Curdworth
PALM SUNDAY Red	11.15am	Holy Communion	St John's, Middleton
Monday 30 th Red	9.00am	Morning Prayer	St John's, Middleton
Tuesday 31st Red	9.00am	Holy Communion	St Nicholas' Church
Wednesday 1 st April Red	9.00am <u>7.30pm</u>	Morning Prayer Music and Readings for Holy Week and Easter	St Chad's, Wishaw St Nicholas', Curdworth
Maundy Thursday 2 nd April White	7.30pm	Holy Communion, stripping of the altar, followed by the Vigil	St Nicholas', Curdworth
Good Friday 3 rd April	10.30-12 1.00pm 1.30pm 3.00pm 8.00pm	Family Messy Church Walk of Witness Walk of Witness Combined service Tenebrae	Curdworth Church Hall St John's, Middleton St Nicholas, Curdworth St Chad's, Wishaw St Nicholas', Curdworth
Easter Eve Saturday 4 th April	8.00pm	Bonfire and blessing of the Paschal Candles	St Cuthbert's, Castle Vale
EASTER DAY 5th April White	9.30am 11.15am 11.15am	Family Communion Holy Communion Holy Communion	St Chad's, Wishaw St Nicholas', Curdworth St John's, Middleton
Thursday 9 th	10.30am	Wishaw Community Coffee Morning	Curdworth Church Hall
Sunday 12th 2nd Sunday of Easter	9.30am	Holy Communion	St Chad's, Wishaw
Monday 13 th	7.45pm	Curdworth DCC	Curdworth Church Hall

Tuesday 14 th	9.00am 7.30pm	Morning Prayer Middleton DCC	St Nicholas' Curdworth Park Farm
Wednesday 15 th	9.00am 7.15pm	Morning Prayer Choir Practice	St Chad's, Wishaw Curdworth Church Hall
Thursday 16 th	9.00am	Morning Prayer	St John's, Middleton
Saturday 18 th	7.30pm	CEILIDH	Curdworth Village Hall
Sunday 19th	9.30am	Family Communion	St Chad's, Wishaw
3rd Sunday of Easter	11.15am	Service of the Word	St Nicholas', Curdworth
White	11.15am	Holy Communion	St John's, Middleton
Monday 20 th	2.00pm 7.45pm	Ministry Team Parochial Church Council	Curdworth Church Hall



PALM SUNDAY 29th March

A Service of Music and Readings for Palm Sunday and Holy Week

with Middleton Choir at St John's, Middleton

“God so loved the world”

6.30pm

All welcome to this thought-provoking service and also to.....

Wednesday 1st April – 7.30pm

Holy Week and Easter Music and Readings

at St Nicholas' Church Curdworth

with St Nicholas' Choir

“God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved.”



Lent, Holy Week and Easter

Monday 30th March – 9.00am - Morning Prayer – St John's, Middleton

Tuesday 31st March – 9.00am – Holy Communion – St Nicholas',
Curdworth

Wednesday 1st April – 9.00am – Morning Prayer – St Chad's, Wishaw

7.30pm – Service of Music and Readings for Easter – St Nicholas',
Curdworth

Maundy Thursday, 2nd April – 7.30pm – Eucharist and stripping of the
altar, followed by the Vigil – St Nicholas', Curdworth

Good Friday 3rd April – 10.00am – Messy Easter for families –
Curdworth Church Hall

Walk of Witness, beginning with services at 1.00pm at St John the
Baptist, Middleton and 1.30pm at St Nicholas', then 3.00pm service at
St Chad's

8.00pm Tenebrae Service at St Nicholas', Curdworth

Easter Eve, Saturday 4th April – 7.30pm Easter bonfire and blessing of
the Paschal Candles – St Cuthbert's, Castle Vale

EASTER DAY Sunday 5th April –

9.30am – Family Communion at St Chad's

11.15am – Holy Communion at St Nicholas'

11.15am – Holy Communion at St John the Baptist



LAST CALL.....

EASTER LILIES –If you would like to remember a loved one by giving a donation towards the cost of the lilies, please put your donation in an envelope. Mark the envelope “Easter Lilies” and put a note inside with the name(s) of those you would like to remember. Names will be read out in church on Easter Day.

You can hand your envelope to Isabel Potter at St Nicholas’, Margaret Allen at St Chad’s and Jo Hollis at St John’s. Please see below in this Newsletter for payee details if you wish to donate by cheque. You can also donate by bank transfer.



ReminderDATES FOR YOUR DIARY.....

2026

Ceilidh.....Saturday, 18th April at Curdworth Village Hall

Spring Fair.....Sunday 17th May at Wishaw Church and grounds

Quiz Night.....Saturday 28th November at Wishaw Golf Club

Finance – Here are the bank details for each church for your reference:

St Nicholas’: 30-92-75 00610273 (PCC of St Nicholas Curdworth)

St John’s: 05-09-42 57896460 (St John the Baptist PCC)

St Chad’s: 30-98-37 00152981 (Parochial Church Council Wishaw)

The Newsletter – if you would like anything added to the Newsletter, here are the details you need: margaret_allen69@yahoo.co.uk 07778 458 789 or n.w.phillips@live.com 07498 202 262

Ceilidh Night – Tickets available now!



Join us for a lively evening of dance in good company

Featuring live music from members of
The Organ Grinders!

Date: Saturday, 18th April 2026 **Time:** 7.30pm

Venue: Curdworth Village Hall

Tickets: £12.50 (Adults) · £6 (Under 12s)

- *Ploughman's Supper* included **BYO** drinks and glasses
- **Raffle with great prizes!** Interval games for everyone

Don't miss out—gather your friends and family for a fantastic night!

In aid of St Chad's Church, Wishaw.

Contact Margaret 07778 458789 for tickets

PRAYER LIST



Please remember in your prayers all who are sick and those who mourn the loss of a loved one.

Prayers for the sick			
Curdworth	Roy Allen Sharon Brown Adrian Cionnagh <i>Amanda Emerson</i> <i>Isabella Murphy</i> Tim Rawson <i>Cody Smith</i> <i>Philip Walsh</i> Barry Wiltshire	Gary Baker Sandra Bullivant <i>Claire Eldridge</i> Barbara Ingram <i>Helen Parry</i> Ellie Reeves <i>Clare Tillson</i> Betty Waters	<i>Barbara Blaber</i> Louise Christoforou <i>Jean Eldridge</i> Caroline Lee <i>Jenny Phillips</i> Sue Shelley <i>Charlotte Twamley-Hayes</i> <i>Peter Wiggins</i>
Middleton	Jo'anne Cole <i>Alan Cochran</i>	<i>Peter Hancock</i> Clinton Smith	<i>Jean Nixon</i>
Wishaw	Colin Philpott Pauline Nelmes	Joyce Simmons Cae Hayes	Rachel Way
For the departed	Margaret Turner	Betty Ansell	Anne Batchelor

CHRIST IS RISEN!

HE IS RISEN INDEED!

The greeting shouted, first on Easter Eve as the first light of Easter is lit. The new Paschal Candles are lit from that light; all those gathered around hold an individual candle which is also lit from that first light.

“CHRIST IS RISEN” cries the priest and all shout “HE IS RISEN INDEED! ALLELUIA!”

The candles are processed through the church and that call and response echo through the building as the light of Christ brightens the dark church. Of course, this is the culmination of a long period of contemplation, study and self-denial during the six weeks of Lent which began back on Ash Wednesday, during some of the darkest days of the year, but which we can leave behind as we celebrate the joy of Easter.

Not yet, though. The triumph of Jesus' entry into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday is but a brief respite before an intense few days as we re-live the narrative of Holy Week. Day by day we follow Jesus' footsteps moving inexorably towards the cruelty of the cross.

Finally, we can join in the cry “He is risen indeed! Alleluia!” on Easter Day and, if we have followed those footsteps, how much more glorious will it sound! The cross is with us in our church buildings, in our churchyards, maybe on a chain around our necks or as a pin badge on a lapel to remind us of the sacrifice made on behalf of us all on that first Good Friday.

There are opportunities each day of Holy Week to worship in our churches, through quiet services as well as via words and music on both Palm Sunday and the Wednesday of Holy Week.

Do try to make the most of this Holy Week, so that when Easter Day arrives, it will be the wonderful day it should be – the “Queen of Festivals”.

Wishing you a happy and blessed Easter.

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

Readings for Sunday 29th March 2026

Sixth Sunday of Lent – Palm Sunday

Collect

Almighty and everlasting God,
who in your tender love towards the human race
sent your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ
to take upon him our flesh
and to suffer death upon the cross:
grant that we may follow the example of his patience and humility,
and also be made partakers of his resurrection;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Amen

The First Reading

is from the letter of Paul to the Philippians chapter 2

⁵Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,
⁶who, though he was in the form of God,
did not regard equality with God
as something to be exploited,
⁷but emptied himself,
taking the form of a slave,
being born in human likeness.
And being found in human form,
⁸he humbled himself
and became obedient to the point of death –
even death on a cross.

⁹Therefore God also highly exalted him
and gave him the name
that is above every name,
¹⁰so that at the name of Jesus
every knee should bend,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
¹¹and every tongue should confess

that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

The Gospel

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew..

Glory to you, O Lord.

Matthew 26.14 - 27.66

¹⁴One of the twelve, who was called Judas Iscariot, went to the chief priests and said, ¹⁵‘What will you give me if I betray him to you?’ They paid him thirty pieces of silver. ¹⁶And from that moment he began to look for an opportunity to betray him.

¹⁷On the first day of Unleavened Bread the disciples came to Jesus, saying, ‘Where do you want us to make the preparations for you to eat the Passover?’ ¹⁸He said, ‘Go into the city to a certain man, and say to him, “The Teacher says, My time is near; I will keep the Passover at your house with my disciples.”’ ¹⁹So the disciples did as Jesus had directed them, and they prepared the Passover meal.

²⁰When it was evening, he took his place with the twelve; ²¹and while they were eating, he said, ‘Truly I tell you, one of you will betray me.’ ²²And they became greatly distressed and began to say to him one after another, ‘Surely not I, Lord?’ ²³He answered, ‘The one who has dipped his hand into the bowl with me will betray me. ²⁴The Son of Man goes as it is written of him, but woe to that one by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It would have been better for that one not to have been born.’ ²⁵Judas, who betrayed him, said, ‘Surely not I, Rabbi?’ He replied, ‘You have said so.’

²⁶While they were eating, Jesus took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it he broke it, gave it to the disciples, and said, ‘Take, eat; this is my body.’ ²⁷Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he gave it to them, saying, ‘Drink from it, all of you; ²⁸for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. ²⁹I tell you, I will never again drink of this fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father’s kingdom.’

³⁰When they had sung the hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.

³¹Then Jesus said to them, ‘You will all become deserters because of me this night; for it is written, “I will strike the shepherd, and the sheep of the flock will be scattered.”

³²But after I am raised up, I will go ahead of you to Galilee.’ ³³Peter said to him, ‘Though all become deserters because of you, I will never desert you.’ ³⁴Jesus said to him, ‘Truly I tell you, this very night, before the cock crows, you will deny me three times.’ ³⁵Peter said to him, ‘Even though I must die with you, I will not deny you.’ And so said all the disciples.

³⁶Then Jesus went with them to a place called Gethsemane; and he said to his disciples, ‘Sit here while I go over there and pray.’ ³⁷He took with him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, and began to be grieved and agitated. ³⁸Then he said to them, ‘I am deeply grieved, even to death; remain here, and stay awake with me.’ ³⁹And going a little farther, he threw himself on the ground and prayed, ‘My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from me; yet not what I want but what you want.’ ⁴⁰Then he came to the disciples and found them sleeping; and he said to Peter, ‘So, could you not stay awake with me one hour? ⁴¹Stay awake and pray that you may not come into the time

of trial; for the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.’ ⁴²Again he went away for the second time and prayed, ‘My Father, if this cannot pass unless I drink it, your will be done.’ ⁴³Again he came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were heavy. ⁴⁴So leaving them again, he went away and prayed for the third time, saying the same words. ⁴⁵Then he came to the disciples and said to them, ‘Are you still sleeping and taking your rest? See, the hour is at hand, and the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. ⁴⁶Get up, let us be going. See, my betrayer is at hand.’

⁴⁷While he was still speaking, Judas, one of the twelve, arrived; with him was a large crowd with swords and clubs, from the chief priests and the elders of the people. ⁴⁸Now the betrayer had given them a sign, saying, ‘The one I will kiss is the man; arrest him.’ ⁴⁹At once he came up to Jesus and said, ‘Greetings, Rabbi!’ and kissed him. ⁵⁰Jesus said to him, ‘Friend, do what you are here to do.’ Then they came and laid hands on Jesus and arrested him. ⁵¹Suddenly, one of those with Jesus put his hand on his sword, drew it, and struck the slave of the high priest, cutting off his ear. ⁵²Then Jesus said to him, ‘Put your sword back into its place; for all who take the sword will perish by the sword. ⁵³Do you think that I cannot appeal to my Father, and he will at once send me more than twelve legions of angels? ⁵⁴But how then would the scriptures be fulfilled, which say it must happen in this way?’ ⁵⁵At that hour Jesus said to the crowds, ‘Have you come out with swords and clubs to arrest me as though I were a bandit? Day after day I sat in the temple teaching, and you did not arrest me. ⁵⁶But all this has taken place, so that the scriptures of the prophets may be fulfilled.’ Then all the disciples deserted him and fled.

⁵⁷Those who had arrested Jesus took him to Caiaphas the high priest, in whose house the scribes and the elders had gathered. ⁵⁸But Peter was following him at a distance, as far as the courtyard of the high priest; and going inside, he sat with the guards in order to see how this would end. ⁵⁹Now the chief priests and the whole council were looking for false testimony against Jesus so that they might put him to death, ⁶⁰but they found none, though many false witnesses came forward. At last two came forward and said, ⁶¹‘This fellow said, “I am able to destroy the temple of God and to build it in three days.”’ ⁶²The high priest stood up and said, ‘Have you no answer? What is it that they testify against you?’ ⁶³But Jesus was silent. Then the high priest said to him, ‘I put you under oath before the living God, tell us if you are the Messiah, the Son of God.’ ⁶⁴Jesus said to him, ‘You have said so. But I tell you,

From now on you will see the Son of Man
seated at the right hand of Power
and coming on the clouds of heaven.’

⁶⁵Then the high priest tore his clothes and said, ‘He has blasphemed! Why do we still need witnesses? You have now heard his blasphemy. ⁶⁶What is your verdict?’ They answered, ‘He deserves death.’ ⁶⁷Then they spat in his face and struck him; and some slapped him, ⁶⁸saying, ‘Prophecy to us, you Messiah! Who is it that struck you?’

⁶⁹Now Peter was sitting outside in the courtyard. A servant-girl came to him and said, ‘You also were with Jesus the Galilean.’ ⁷⁰But he denied it before all of them, saying, ‘I do not know what you are talking about.’ ⁷¹When he went out to the porch, another servant-girl saw him, and she said to the bystanders, ‘This man was with Jesus of Nazareth.’ ⁷²Again he denied it with an oath, ‘I do not know the man.’ ⁷³After a little while the bystanders came up and said to Peter, ‘Certainly you are also one of them, for your accent betrays you.’ ⁷⁴Then he began to curse, and he swore an oath, ‘I do not know the man!’ At that moment the cock crowed. ⁷⁵Then Peter remembered what Jesus had said: ‘Before the cock crows, you will deny me three times.’ And he went out and wept bitterly.

¹When morning came, all the chief priests and the elders of the people conferred together against Jesus in order to bring about his death. ²They bound him, led him away, and handed him over to Pilate the governor.

³When Judas, his betrayer, saw that Jesus was condemned, he repented and brought back the thirty pieces of silver to the chief priests and the elders. ⁴He said, ‘I have sinned by betraying

innocent blood.' But they said, 'What is that to us? See to it yourself.' ⁵Throwing down the pieces of silver in the temple, he departed; and he went and hanged himself. ⁶But the chief priests, taking the pieces of silver, said, 'It is not lawful to put them into the treasury, since they are blood money.' ⁷After conferring together, they used them to buy the potter's field as a place to bury foreigners. ⁸For this reason that field has been called the Field of Blood to this day. ⁹Then was fulfilled what had been spoken through the prophet Jeremiah, 'And they took the thirty pieces of silver, the price of the one on whom a price had been set, on whom some of the people of Israel had set a price, ¹⁰and they gave them for the potter's field, as the Lord commanded me.'

¹¹Now Jesus stood before the governor; and the governor asked him, 'Are you the King of the Jews?' Jesus said, 'You say so.' ¹²But when he was accused by the chief priests and elders, he did not answer. ¹³Then Pilate said to him, 'Do you not hear how many accusations they make against you?' ¹⁴But he gave him no answer, not even to a single charge, so that the governor was greatly amazed.

¹⁵Now at the festival the governor was accustomed to release a prisoner for the crowd, anyone whom they wanted. ¹⁶At that time they had a notorious prisoner, called Jesus Barabbas. ¹⁷So after they had gathered, Pilate said to them, 'Whom do you want me to release for you, Barabbas or Jesus who is called the Messiah?' ¹⁸For he realized that it was out of jealousy that they had handed him over. ¹⁹While he was sitting on the judgement seat, his wife sent word to him, 'Have nothing to do with that innocent man, for today I have suffered a great deal because of a dream about him.' ²⁰Now the chief priests and the elders persuaded the crowds to ask for Barabbas and to have Jesus killed. ²¹The governor again said to them, 'Which of the two do you want me to release for you?' And they said, 'Barabbas.' ²²Pilate said to them, 'Then what should I do with Jesus who is called the Messiah?' All of them said, 'Let him be crucified!' ²³Then he asked, 'Why, what evil has he done?' But they shouted all the more, 'Let him be crucified!'

²⁴So when Pilate saw that he could do nothing, but rather that a riot was beginning, he took some water and washed his hands before the crowd, saying, 'I am innocent of this man's blood; see to it yourselves.' ²⁵Then the people as a whole answered, 'His blood be on us and on our children!' ²⁶So he released Barabbas for them; and after flogging Jesus, he handed him over to be crucified.

²⁷Then the soldiers of the governor took Jesus into the governor's headquarters, and they gathered the whole cohort around him. ²⁸They stripped him and put a scarlet robe on him, ²⁹and after twisting some thorns into a crown, they put it on his head. They put a reed in his right hand and knelt before him and mocked him, saying, 'Hail, King of the Jews!' ³⁰They spat on him, and took the reed and struck him on the head. ³¹After mocking him, they stripped him of the robe and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him away to crucify him.

³²As they went out, they came upon a man from Cyrene named Simon; they compelled this man to carry his cross. ³³And when they came to a place called Golgotha (which means Place of a Skull), ³⁴they offered him wine to drink, mixed with gall; but when he tasted it, he would not drink it. ³⁵And when they had crucified him, they divided his clothes among themselves by casting lots; ³⁶then they sat down there and kept watch over him. ³⁷Over his head they put the charge against him, which read, 'This is Jesus, the King of the Jews.'

³⁸Then two bandits were crucified with him, one on his right and one on his left. ³⁹Those who passed by derided him, shaking their heads and saying, ⁴⁰'You who would destroy the temple and build it in three days, save yourself! If you are the Son of God, come down from the cross.' ⁴¹In the same way the chief priests also, along with the scribes and elders, were mocking him, saying, ⁴²'He saved others; he cannot save himself. He is the King of Israel; let him come down from the cross now, and we will believe in him. ⁴³He trusts in God; let God deliver him now, if he wants to; for he said, "I am God's Son."' ⁴⁴The bandits who were crucified with him also taunted him in the same way.

⁴⁵From noon on, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon. ⁴⁶And about three o'clock Jesus cried with a loud voice, 'Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?' that is, 'My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?' ⁴⁷When some of the bystanders heard it, they said, 'This man is calling for Elijah.' ⁴⁸At once one of them ran and got a sponge, filled it with sour wine, put it on a stick, and gave it to him to drink. ⁴⁹But the others said, 'Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to save him.' ⁵⁰Then Jesus cried again with a loud voice and breathed his last. ⁵¹At that moment the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. The earth shook, and the rocks were split. ⁵²The tombs also were opened, and many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised. ⁵³After his resurrection they came out of the tombs and entered the holy city and appeared to many. ⁵⁴Now when the centurion and those with him, who were keeping watch over Jesus, saw the earthquake and what took place, they were terrified and said, 'Truly this man was God's Son!'

⁵⁵Many women were also there, looking on from a distance; they had followed Jesus from Galilee and had provided for him. ⁵⁶Among them were Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James and Joseph, and the mother of the sons of Zebedee.

⁵⁷When it was evening, there came a rich man from Arimathea, named Joseph, who was also a disciple of Jesus. ⁵⁸He went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus; then Pilate ordered it to be given to him. ⁵⁹So Joseph took the body and wrapped it in a clean linen cloth ⁶⁰and laid it in his own new tomb, which he had hewn in the rock. He then rolled a great stone to the door of the tomb and went away. ⁶¹Mary Magdalene and the other Mary were there, sitting opposite the tomb.

⁶²The next day, that is, after the day of Preparation, the chief priests and the Pharisees gathered before Pilate and said, ⁶³'Sir, we remember what that impostor said while he was still alive, "After three days I will rise again."' ⁶⁴Therefore command the tomb to be made secure until the third day; otherwise his disciples may go and steal him away, and tell the people, "He has been raised from the dead," and the last deception would be worse than the first.' ⁶⁵Pilate said to them, 'You have a guard of soldiers; go, make it as secure as you can.' ⁶⁶So they went with the guard and made the tomb secure by sealing the stone.

This is the Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you, O Christ

Post communion

Lord Jesus Christ,
you humbled yourself in taking the form of a servant,
and in obedience died on the cross for our salvation:
give us the mind to follow you
and to proclaim you as Lord and King,
to the glory of God the Father.

Amen.

Readings for Sunday 5th April 2026

EASTER DAY

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

The First Reading

is from the Acts of the Apostles chapter 10

³⁴Peter began to speak to those assembled in the house of Cornelius. 'I truly understand that God shows no partiality, ³⁵but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. ³⁶You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ – he is Lord of all. ³⁷That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: ³⁸how 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. ³⁹We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; ⁴⁰but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, ⁴¹not 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. ⁴²He 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. ⁴³All 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

The Gospel

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

John 20.1-18

¹Early 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. ²So 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.' ³Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went towards the tomb. ⁴The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. ⁵He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. ⁶Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, ⁷and the cloth that had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. ⁸Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; ⁹for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. ¹⁰Then the disciples returned to their homes.

¹¹But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; ¹²and 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. ¹³They 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.' ¹⁴When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. ¹⁵Jesus 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.' ¹⁶Jesus said to her, 'Mary!' She turned and said to him in Hebrew, 'Rabbouni!' which means Teacher. ¹⁷Jesus 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."' ¹⁸Mary 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

Post communion

God of Life,
who for our redemption gave your only-begotten Son
to the death of the cross,
and by his glorious resurrection
have delivered us from the power of our enemy:
grant us so to die daily to sin,
that we may evermore live with him in the joy of his risen life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

Readings for Sunday 12th April 2026

Second Sunday of Easter

Collect

Almighty Father,
you have given your only Son to die for our sins
and to rise again for our justification:
grant us so to put away the leaven of malice and wickedness
that we may always serve you
in pureness of living and truth;
through the merits of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Amen

The First Reading

is from the Acts of the Apostles chapter 2

On the day of Pentecost, ¹⁴Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd: ²²'You that are Israelites, listen to what I have to say: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with deeds of power, wonders, and signs that God did through him among you, as you yourselves know – ²³this man, handed over to you according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of those outside the law. ²⁴But God raised him up, having freed him from death, because it was impossible for him to be held in its power.

²⁵For David says concerning him,

"I saw the Lord always before me,
for he is at my right hand so that I will not be shaken;

²⁶therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced;
moreover, my flesh will live in hope.

²⁷For you will not abandon my soul to Hades,
or let your Holy One experience corruption.

²⁸You have made known to me the ways of life;
you will make me full of gladness with your presence."

²⁹Fellow Israelites, I may say to you confidently of our ancestor David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. ³⁰Since he was a prophet, he knew that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would put one of his descendants on his throne. ³¹Foreseeing this, David spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah, saying,

"He was not abandoned to Hades,

nor did his flesh experience corruption.”

³²This Jesus God raised up, and of that all of us are witnesses.’

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

The Gospel

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

John 20.19-31

On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with the doors 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 side. The disciples were overjoyed when they saw the Lord.

Again Jesus said, “Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you.” And with that he breathed on them and said, “Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive anyone his sins, they are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven.”

Now Thomas (called Didymus), one of the Twelve, was not with the disciples when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord!”

But he said to them, “Unless I see the nail marks in his hands and put my finger where the nails were, and put my hand into his side, I will not believe it.”

A week later his disciples were in the house again, and Thomas was with them. Though the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you!” Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe.”

Thomas said to him, “My Lord and my God!”

Then Jesus told him, “Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.”

Jesus did many other miraculous signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not recorded in this book. But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

This is the Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you, O Christ

Post communion

Lord God our Father,
through our Saviour Jesus Christ

you have assured your children of eternal life
and in baptism have made us one with him:
deliver us from the death of sin
and raise us to new life in your love,
in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
by the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Amen



