

### COLLECT

Almighty Father,  
who in your great mercy gladdened the  
disciples with the sight of the risen  
Lord:  
give us such knowledge of his presence  
with us,  
that we may be strengthened and  
sustained by his risen life  
and serve you continually in  
righteousness and truth;  
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.

### FIRST READING

*The reading from Acts must be used as either the first or second reading.*

#### Either Acts 2:14a. 36-41

*A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.*

On the day of Pentecost, Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd, "Let the entire house of Israel know with certainty that God has made him both Lord and Messiah, this Jesus whom you crucified." Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and to the other apostles, "Brothers, what should we do?" Peter said to them, "Repent, and be baptised every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him." And he testified with many other arguments and exhorted them, saying, "Save yourselves from this corrupt generation." So those who welcomed his message were baptised, and that day about three thousand persons were added to their number.

Or Zephaniah 3:14-end

#### PSALM Psalm 116:1-3. 10-end

*R Gracious is the Lord and righteous;  
[our God is full of compassion].*

I love the Lord,  
because he has heard the voice of my  
supplication,  
because he has inclined his ear to me  
whenever I called upon him. **R**

The cords of death entangled me;  
the grip of the grave took hold of me;  
I came to grief and sorrow.  
Then I called upon the name of the Lord:  
"O Lord, I pray you, save my life." **R**

How shall I repay the Lord  
for all the good things he has done for  
me?

I will lift up the cup of salvation  
and call upon the name of the Lord.  
I will fulfil my vows to the Lord  
in the presence of all his people. **R**

Precious in the sight of the Lord  
is the death of his servants.  
O Lord, I am your servant;  
I am your servant and the child of your  
handmaid;  
you have freed me from my bonds. **R**

I will offer you the sacrifice of  
thanksgiving  
and call upon the name of the Lord.  
I will fulfil my vows to the Lord  
in the presence of all his people.  
In the courts of the Lord's house,  
in the midst of you, O Jerusalem.  
Alleluia! **R**

#### SECOND READING 1 Peter 1:17-23

*A reading from the first letter of Peter.*

If you invoke as Father the one who judges all people impartially according to their deeds, live in reverent fear during the time of your exile. You know that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your ancestors, not with perishable things like silver or gold, but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without defect or blemish. He was destined before the foundation of the world, but was revealed at the end of the ages for your sake. Through him you have come to trust in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are set on God. Now that you have purified your souls by your obedience to the truth so that you have genuine mutual love, love one another deeply from the heart. You have been born anew, not of perishable but of imperishable seed, through the living and enduring word of God.

Or Acts 2:14a. 36-41

#### GOSPEL Luke 24:13-35

*Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.*

On that same day, two of the disciples were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, but their eyes were kept from recognising him. And he said to them, "What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?" They stood still, looking sad. Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, "Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does

not know the things that have taken place there in these days?" Jesus asked them, "What things?" They replied, "The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place. Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, and when they did not find his body there, they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said; but they did not see Jesus." Then he said to them, "Oh, how foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?" Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures. As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. But they urged him strongly, saying, "Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over." So he went in to stay with them. When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened, and they recognised Jesus; and he vanished from their sight. They said to each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?" That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. They were saying, "The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!" Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

#### POST COMMUNION

Living God,  
your Son made himself known to his  
disciples  
in the breaking of bread:  
open the eyes of our faith,  
that we may see him in all his redeeming  
work;  
who is alive and reigns, now and for ever.

**The Annual Parochial Church Meeting:** is not far away, May 13<sup>th</sup>. Candidates are invited to create a 100-word statement sharing their vision and to give that to our administrator. They will then be made available in advance of the meeting, so please, in by the 27<sup>th</sup> April. We are producing the report booklet so any reports need to be in soon and they will be issued in advance with the accounts which will be independently examined and approved by the PCC. Anyone thinking of standing for the PCC, Deanery Synod or as Warden should complete safeguarding training in preparation; most is online; advice and support with this can be given by our Parish Safeguarding Officer, Claire Cooper. Janet Goodall and Linda Anthony have both indicated they are standing down as Wardens of St Nicholas and St Michael's respectively. Joan Hurst will stand as warden for one last time. Others, currently on the PCC, have indicated that they will be standing down this year. We will have the Election of Wardens, 3 Deanery Synod Representatives, and 9 members of the Parochial Church Council at the Annual Meeting. Please complete the application forms in each church. You can also join the Electoral Roll if you haven't done so yet.

**Lent Giving:** Our total raised is £100 from All Saints, £225 from St Nicholas, of which £200 came from the sale of old chairs. St Michael's gave £120, making a total of £445.

**Bible Study:** there is an opportunity to join a Bible Study at All Saints on Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> April, 27<sup>th</sup> May and 24<sup>th</sup> June 7-9pm. More details from Sioux Thorpe.

**Christian Aid:** a soup lunch at Wrabness at 12.30 Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> May which precedes Christian Aid Week 10-16<sup>th</sup> May.

**Children's Society:** if you have boxes they can be handed in now. Ian will ensure they reach Enid.

**Retreat:** there is a half day retreat led by the Rector at St Mary's Little Bentley (C07 8SH) exploring what St Matthias, the overlooked apostle, can teach us. Please book with Ian; drinks supplied but bring your own lunch if staying. Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> May. Places are limited to 30. 9.30am – 12.30pm

**Safeguarding:** we are delighted to announce that Kellie Norris will be assisting Claire Cooper with maintaining excellent safeguarding in the parish, particularly with completing DBS applications.

**Christ at the Cinema:** Liz McLeod is asking for helpers and shoe/cereal boxes for a project at the Electric Palace. On Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> May at 2pm, we are watching The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe, with a talk on the bible themes in it and crafts, all free. If you can help, please contact 07939 534115 or harwich.peninsular@gmail.com.

**Prayer as we move deeper into 2026:** *Leading Your Church Into Growth (a card with this on is available)*

God of mission, who alone brings growth to your Church,  
send your Holy Spirit to give – Vision to our planning, Wisdom to our actions, Joy to our worship,  
and Power to our witness. Help our church to grow in numbers, in spiritual commitment to you,  
and in service to our local community, through Jesus Christ our Lord. AMEN.

**Baptised in April:** None

**Married in April:** None

**Departed in March:** Anne Lord; Edward Donald Green (Doodle); Geoffrey Norman King; Marlene Angela Heather Broom; Daniel James Sime.

**St Michael's worship 9am each Sunday** (Communion on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays)

**All Saints worship 10.30am each Sunday** (Communion on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays)

**St Nicholas worship 10.30am each Sunday** (Communion on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays)

*You should be able to access the hearing loop in each building – please let us know if you cannot*

1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of every month: Prayer Book Evensong at St Nicholas at 5pm

2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the month: Pop Up church at St Michael's at 3pm

3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of every month: Prayer and Praise at St Michael's at 5pm

4<sup>th</sup> Saturday of every month (except August and December): Messy Church in the Esplanade Hall from 2-4pm. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of every month: Hymns and Service at Don Thomson Residential Home at 11am

2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of every month: Hymns and Service at Lime Court Residential Home at 11am

For more information please visit our social media:

[www.harwichparish.co.uk](http://www.harwichparish.co.uk) or [www.achurchnearyou.com](http://www.achurchnearyou.com) or our Facebook pages.

[https://www.facebook.com/Harwich Peninsula Parish CofE](https://www.facebook.com/Harwich%20Peninsula%20Parish%20CofE). All Saints, St Michaels & St Nicholas or Messy Church at the Esplanade Hall