



**BrookDean Benefice – The Parishes of Drybrook, Lydbrook & Ruardean**

## **Notices week beginning 05.04.2026**

### **Easter Sunday**

**This Sunday we come together at Drybrook for our Benefice Service of Holy Communion, at 10.30am.**

Bishop Christopher will be taking our service this week, and looks forward to welcoming you.

### **Easter Sunday**

A very happy and blessed Easter to everyone! And a welcome to the newly Confirmed, Andrew, George, Oliver and Diane.

At Easter flowers, the Easter Garden, the Easter Candle, Easter Eggs and even bunnies! The Easter Bunny seems to be a secular addition to the Christian meaning of Easter, which is new life - hence flowers and eggs. Perhaps our society is embarrassed by Easter? Or simply doesn't know what to make of and therefore substitutes the Easter Bunny.

Doubts about Easter and the Resurrection are not actually new. St Paul had many problems with his Church in Corinth. There was sexual immorality, class divisions based on wealth, a split in the church following different leaders, noisy charismatics speaking 'in tongues' and some who didn't believe in the resurrection and some who thought it was a resuscitation.

At Easter we renew our baptismal/confirmation promises. Baptism is not only a sign of washing but also of rising to new life from the waters of death. We are in that new life *now*. A life of loving God and loving our neighbour as ourselves. Rededicate yourself to this this Easter as you join in the renewal of vows on Easter Sunday morning at Drybrook. But Christ's new life *continues* after death yet not a resuscitation of the physical body. St Paul taught the Corinthians 'we are buried a *physical* body but are raised a *spiritual* body'. Easter faith is mysterious but it is not crude. Rejoice in its mystery this Easter.

+Christopher



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### Collect for the week...

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 bepraise and honour, glory and might, now and in all eternity.

Amen

### Readings

Our readings this week are:

John 20: 1-18

Acts 10: 34-43

### For our Prayers

We continue to pray for all those who were Confirmed on Holy Saturday at Gloucester Cathedral.

We pray for those who are unwell: June and Malcolm Jones.

We pray for those we have known and who have died: Stephen (Steve) Davies.

We pray for those getting married within our Benefice: Emma Wadman and Callum Matthews.

If you would like us to pray for someone who is unwell, please do let us know by emailing their name (with their consent, and ideally including surname) to [benefice-support@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:benefice-support@hotmail.co.uk). Names will be included for a period of 4 weeks unless otherwise requested.

### Birthdays

Sally Parker – celebrating a special birthday on 7<sup>th</sup> April.

If you, or someone you know, would like to have their birthday celebrated in our weekly notices, please do let us know by emailing [benefice-support@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:benefice-support@hotmail.co.uk)



## **BrookDean Benefice – The Parishes of Drybrook, Lydbrook & Ruardean**

### **Events**

Every 2<sup>nd</sup>. Tuesday of the month - Meet and Eat at The Pludds, Village Hall. 11am – 2pm. A warm place to meet, chat and share. Light lunches tea, coffee and cakes. Further information from Sue Barber on 01594 861180.

Every Thursday morning - 10:30–12 noon, treat yourself to a cup of tea or coffee with a fresh slice of cake for only £1.50. Ruardean Woodside Village Hall.

Fridays - 10am. -12noon. Coffee, cake and conversation. Ruardean warm space. Ruardean Memorial Hall. Post office van outside from 10 -11am.

Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> April – Ruardean churchyard working party/clean-up from 10am. Please bring tools, gloves, rubbish bags, wheelbarrow and join us to help make the churchyard tidy! If you have any spare indigenous plants, foxgloves, poppies, primroses, valerian, wildflower seed or bulbs do bring them along for planting.

Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> May – 12 noon, Soup & Pud at Ruardean Memorial Hall.

### **Next Sunday**

Benefice Service of Holy Communion at Lydbrook.