



The Parish Churches of St Mary the Virgin, Gillingham,
St Simon & St Jude, Milton on Stour and St Nicholas, Silton



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Open to God, Open to all

Sunday 19 April The Third Sunday of Easter

CW Lectionary Acts 2. 14a, 36 – 41; Luke 24. 13 – 35

10:00am Holy Communion St Mary's Church, Gillingham

Hymns: 207, 131, 713, 433 & 434 (choir), 505

Prayers for healing are usually available after the 10am service in the side chapel at St Mary's

10:30am BCP Holy Communion St Nicholas Church, Silton

10:30am Holy Communion St Simon & St Jude, Milton on Stour *Hymns: 501, 543, 50, 122*

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.

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.

For your thoughts and prayers

Norma Morris, Adam Cooke, Steve & Mary Rae, Roberta Wyatt, Rita Burns, Allen & Pauline Bryant, Carol Hebden, Diane Whitford, Anne Clarke, Shirley Lynch, Sandra Haward and David Clegg & family.

We commend to God's care all those who have died, especially Jean Harding and Maureen Atkinson, and we pray for those who mourn the loss of loved ones.

READING Acts 2. 14a, 36 – 41

(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 baptized 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 baptized, and that day about three thousand persons were added to their number.

GOSPEL Luke 24. 13 – 35

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 recognizing 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 recognized 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.

Tuesday 21 April

10:00am – 12noon Gillingham Mindful Café at Gillingham Social Club. Activity - Boccia or Skittles.

Wednesday 22 April

10:30am Holy Communion at St Mary's Church, Gillingham

10:30am – 12noon The Gillingham Men's Group at Rawson Court

2:00pm Milton on Stour PCC Meeting

2:00pm – 4:30pm Eden Café and TerraCycle recycling in the Vicarage School Room

*Also today at Eden, from 2:00pm – 4:00pm, - **Macrame Keyrings Workshop**. Come and learn how to make Macrame keyrings with Jo – all materials and tuition will be provided. No booking required, just drop in! Cost is £3 per keyring (to include a 50p donation to St Mary's Church)*



Thursday 23 April

10:00am – 12noon Eden Café and TerraCycle recycling in the Vicarage School Room

7:00pm Gillingham Community Cinema in the Vicarage School Room

*Come and see **Wicked For Good**. Tickets £6. Reserve from 07817 379006. Payment by cash or card on the evening.*



Friday 24 April

9.30am – 10:00am Informal Prayer Group in the Vicarage School Room

2:30pm – 4:00pm Dementia Friendly Gillingham 'Sing-a-Song of Praise' at Fern Brook Lodge

Saturday 25 April

10:00am – 12noon Meditation in the Vicarage School Room

7:00pm Spring Celebration Concert at St Mary's Church, Gillingham

Come and join us for an evening of wonderful music! Featuring Maria Danishvar (soprano), Arabella Heaton (mezzo-soprano), Simon Twiselton (piano) and Christopher Vale (bassoon). Tickets £12 (to include a drink and nibbles during the interval). Please phone 01747 821598 or visit the Parish Office for tickets. Tickets may also be bought on the evening. Payment by cash or card. All proceeds towards church roof repairs.



Sunday 26 April The Fourth Sunday of Easter

CW Lectionary Ps. 23; Acts 2. 42 – end; John 10. 1 – 10

10:00am Holy Communion St Mary's Church, Gillingham

10:30am Matins St Nicholas Church, Silton

6:30pm Evensong St Simon & St Jude, Milton on Stour

Also at St Mary's Church, Gillingham on Sunday 26 April

1:30pm Scouts' St George's Day Parade and Renewal of Promises

Finance Bite Size 20 for St Mary's

The 2025 published accounts are displayed, as required, on the church notice board. Hard copies can be obtained from the Parish Office and will also be available at the APCM where you will have the opportunity to query and ask questions.

Friday 1 May – Seahorse Workshop in the Vicarage School Room (10:30am – 12:30pm)

Come and enjoy stitching together to create an underwater scene of seagrass, seaweed and seahorses. All materials will be provided, including an outline pattern, £12.50 per person, to include coffee, tea and biscuits. Please contact Caroline on 07788 688795 to book a place. Fundraising for St Mary's Church and local charities.