

# Sunday 12 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.

## FIRST READING

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

Either **Acts 2:14a. 22-32**

*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, "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 – this 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. But God raised him up, having freed him from death, because it was impossible for him to be held in its power. For 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; therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced; moreover my flesh will live in hope. For you will not abandon my soul to Hades, or let your Holy One experience corruption. You have made known to me the ways of life; you will make me full of gladness with your presence.' Fellow 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. Since 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. Foreseeing this, David spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah, saying, 'He was not abandoned to Hades, nor did his flesh experience corruption.' This Jesus God raised up, and of that all of us are witnesses."

Or **Exodus 14:10-end; 15:20. 21**

## PSALM Psalm 16

**R** *O Lord, you are my portion and my cup.*

Protect me, O God, for I take refuge in  
you;  
I have said to the Lord, "You are my  
Lord,  
my good above all other."  
All my delight is upon the godly that are  
in the land,  
upon those who are noble among the  
people. **R**

But those who run after other gods  
shall have their troubles multiplied.  
Their libations of blood I will not offer,  
nor take the names of their gods upon  
my lips. **R**

O Lord, you are my portion and my cup;  
it is you who uphold my lot.  
My boundaries enclose a pleasant land;  
indeed, I have a goodly heritage. **R**

I will bless the Lord who gives me  
counsel;  
my heart teaches me, night after night.  
I have set the Lord always before me;  
because he is at my right hand I shall not  
fall. **R**

My heart, therefore, is glad and my spirit  
rejoices;  
my body also shall rest in hope.  
For you will not abandon me to the  
grave,  
nor let your holy one see the Pit.  
You will show me the path of life;  
in your presence there is fullness of joy,  
and in your right hand are pleasures for  
evermore. **R**

## SECOND READING

Either **1 Peter 1:3-9**

*A reading from the first letter of Peter.*

Blessed be the God and Father of our  
Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy  
he has given us a new birth into a  
living hope through the resurrection of  
Jesus Christ from the dead, and into  
an inheritance that is imperishable,  
undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven  
for you, who are being protected by  
the power of God through faith for a  
salvation ready to be revealed in the  
last time. In this you rejoice, even if now  
for a little while you have had to suffer  
various trials, so that the genuineness of  
your faith – being more precious than  
gold that, though perishable, is tested  
by fire – may be found to result in praise  
and glory and honour when Jesus Christ  
is revealed. Although you have not seen  
him, you love him; and even though you  
do not see him now, you believe in him  
and rejoice with an indescribable and

glorious joy, for you are receiving the  
outcome of your faith, the salvation of  
your souls.

Or **Acts 2:14a. 22-32**

## GOSPEL John 20:19-end

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

When it was evening on the first day of  
the week, and the doors of the house  
where the disciples had met were 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 his side. Then the  
disciples rejoiced when they saw the  
Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace  
be with you. As the Father has sent me,  
so I send you." When he had said this,  
he breathed on them and said to them,  
"Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive  
the sins of any, they are forgiven them;  
if you retain the sins of any, they are  
retained." But Thomas (who was called  
the Twin), one of the twelve, was not  
with them when Jesus came. So the  
other disciples told him, "We have seen  
the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless  
I see the mark of the nails in his hands,  
and put my finger in the mark of the  
nails and my hand in his side, I will not  
believe." A week later his disciples were  
again in the house, and Thomas was  
with them. Although the doors were  
shut, Jesus came and stood among them  
and said, "Peace be with you." Then he  
said to Thomas, "Put your finger here  
and see my hands. Reach out your hand  
and put it in my side. Do not doubt but  
believe." Thomas answered him, "My  
Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him,  
"Have you believed because you have  
seen me? Blessed are those who have  
not seen and yet have come to believe."  
Now Jesus did many other signs in the  
presence of his disciples, which are not  
written in this book. But these are written  
so that you may come to believe that  
Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God,  
and that through believing you may have  
life in his name.

## 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.

**Lent Giving:** the PCC agreed that during Lent we would ask people to support Harwich Sea Scouts. They are planning a significant investment in activity provision that would enable our volunteers to deliver high-quality, adventurous programmes to young people aged six to fourteen across our Beaver, Cub, and Scout sections. Every contribution would be used directly to enhance what can be offered locally, benefiting the young people of Dovercourt and the wider community. Our total so far is raised is £325, of which £200 came from the sale of old chairs from St Nicholas; £100 from All Saints, £25 from St Nicholas and we await the St Michael's total.

**Salvation Army Foodbank:** we keep getting lots of thank you's for the food boxes and Easter Eggs donated. Please maintain this generous support for the vulnerable in the town.

**Annual Parochial Church Meeting:** is not far away, May 13<sup>th</sup>. Candidates are invited to create a 100 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 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.

**Finance:** hopefully everyone has seen and taken home the attractive colour postcards encouraging giving through the Parish Giving Scheme. This could really help our finances so please have a look. Chris Wallace our Treasurer is happy to talk to anyone, in confidence, about this regular giving.

**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.

**Liz Ford:** her funeral is on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> April at Noon in St Michael's church, with burial there.

**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/HarwichPeninsulaParishCofE>. All Saints, St Michaels & St Nicholas or Messy Church at the Esplanade Hall