



The Parish Church of

St John the Baptist

Serving the communities of Bodicote,
Cherwell Heights and Longford Park

Our Parish Prayer Ever living God, give us the courage to be your church in the community and for the community, and teach us new ways to share your love with all those around us. Amen.

Sunday 12 April 2nd 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.

First Reading: Acts 2.14a, 22-32

Peter, standing with the eleven,
raised his voice and addressed
them:

‘Men of Judea and all who live in
Jerusalem, let this be known to you,
and listen to what I say. 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.

Second Reading: 1 Peter 1.3–9

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.

Gospel Reading: John 20.19–end

When it was evening on that day, 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 Prayer

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.

Notices

Our **Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM)** takes place next Sunday (19th) at 11am in Church House. This is a very important meeting in the life of our church, in which members of our PCC for the coming year are appointed. The annual accounts are presented and this is your chance to ask any questions. Reports from the various organisations connected with our church are available for you to read. if possible, please request these by email - a limited number will be printed for those unable to do this.

Next week, we will also be **welcoming the Revd Alice Jolley** to our ministry team. She and her wife Coral have been regular members of our 9.45am service over the past few months. Alice is the Chaplain at Katherine House Hospice and part of the chaplaincy team for Oxford University Hospitals. She will often be with us on Sunday mornings whilst also supporting other churches in the Deanery. Alice will be preaching for us that morning and we will take the opportunity to welcome her and Coral with cake at our refreshments

between the 9.45am service and the APCM - another great reason to come along!

If you haven't already done so, please take a few books of **raffle tickets for our May Community Fete** to sell to family and friends, or buy yourself. This will be the main source of income for the church. We are very grateful for Londis in Bodicote whose generosity has enabled us to add a 2nd cash prize of £75 and 3rd of £25.

If you would like to run a stall in aid of the church at the fete or are willing to help in any way, please speak to Ann or email the office.

Most of those who use them have already collected their **weekly envelopes** for this tax year. There is still time to join this scheme if you wish to - please contact our treasurer who can help you with this.

We are also members of the **Parish Giving Scheme**. Again, please contact our treasurer if you would prefer to give regularly in this way.

Diary for this week

All in church unless otherwise stated

Sunday 12 April

8am Holy Communion (BCP)
9.45am Parish Communion
11.30am Holy Baptism

Monday 13 April

8.30am Morning Prayer (Zoom*)

Tuesday 14 April

9.30am Fabric and Finance Committee meet in Dillon House

Wednesday 15 April

2.30pm Afternoon teas in Church House

Thursday 16 April

Vicar's day off

Sunday 19 April

8am Holy Communion (BCP)
9.45am Parish Communion
11am APCM in Church House

Readings for 19 April

Acts 2:1 4a, 36-41, 1 Peter 1: 17-23
Luke 24: 13-35

*Please ask wardens for the link.

This week we pray for all who live or work in Park End Close, Park End, and Park End Court.

Contact us

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