

St Mary the Virgin and All Saints Potters Bar

5th April 2026

Easter Sunday

*A warm welcome to St Mary's,
especially if this is your first time here.*

Refreshments are served in the hall after the Sung Eucharist.

TODAY'S SERVICES

6.30am **DAWN SERVICE followed by Holy Communion & breakfast in the church hall**

8.00am **SAID EUCHARIST**

10.00am **FESTIVAL SUNG EUCHARIST**

First Reading: Acts 10 vv 34-43 *A summary of the Gospel message by Peter, a witness of the Resurrection, beginning with the baptism of John and ending with the statement that Christ is judge.*

Second Reading: Colossians 3 vv 1-4 *St Paul speaks of the new life in Christ.*

Gospel: John 20 vv 1-18 *The beautiful and moving account of Mary Magdalene's discovery of the empty tomb and the risen Lord's revelation of himself to her.*

Hymns: 110, 117, 104, 115, 120

Anthem: All praise to Him who came to save – Nicolai

RENEWAL OF BAPTISMAL VOWS

Fr Stefan: In baptism, God calls us out of darkness into his marvellous light. To follow Christ means dying to sin and rising to new life with him. Therefore I ask:

Do you reject the devil and all rebellion against God?

All: I reject them.

Do you renounce the deceit and corruption of evil?

All: I renounce them.

Do you repent of the sins that separate us from God and neighbour?

All: I repent of them.

Do you turn to Christ as Saviour?

All: I turn to Christ.

Do you submit to Christ as Lord?

All: I submit to Christ.

Do you come to Christ, the way, the truth and the life?

All: I come to Christ

The Week Ahead

Tuesday

Tuesday of Easter Week

9.30am Morning Prayer
12.30pm Recital by Catherine Wilmers & Jill Morton (cello & piano)
Light lunches available from 12 noon

Wednesday

Wednesday of Easter Week

9.30am Said Eucharist
Celebrant: Fr Tom Baron

10.30am – 12 noon Church open for visitors
10.00am – 12 noon Carers' coffee morning in hall

Thursday

Thursday of Easter Week

9.30am Morning Prayer (BCP)
10.30am – 12 noon Church open for visitors

Saturday 2.00pm Rehearsal for children's concert

Next Sunday is the **Second Sunday of Easter**

8.00am Said Eucharist

Celebrant & Preacher: The Revd Dr Alec Corio

10.00am **SUNG EUCHARIST**

Celebrant & Preacher: The Revd Rachel Phillips

5.00pm Evensong

The Eucharist readings will be: Acts 2 vv 14a, 22-32;
1 Peter 1 vv 3-9 and John 20 vv 19-31.

Parish Notices

Thanks to those who have worked hard to decorate the church so beautifully for Easter. The lilies commemorate over 350 of our loved ones whose names are displayed on the scroll in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel.

Today is the last opportunity to contribute to our **Lent giving** for the Church Urban Fund. Donations can be made using the yellow Gift Aid envelopes or by bank transfer which should be marked "Lent Giving".

The next church cleaning session will be on **Tuesday 14th April** from 10.00am. If you can come along to help for an hour, that would be much appreciated.

The PCC will meet on **Wednesday 15th April** at 8.00pm, preceded by a Eucharist at 7.30pm.

Our Confirmation service will be on **Sunday 10th May**. Please let Fr Stefan know as soon as possible if you would be interested in being confirmed on that occasion.

If you are a regular worshipper here, please do consider joining our **Electoral Roll** which is being revised this month in preparation for our Annual Meeting on Sunday 17th May. Please ask Sue Grey or Richard for an application form - only new applicants need to complete a form this year. Forms to be returned by 26th April.

Anne Holt is standing down as our **Children's Society** representative. Could you take her place? There are details of what is involved in the weekly email bulletin – or do have a word with Anne.

For your prayers

The sick Margaret Terry, Anna Downes, Carole Waller, Elizabeth Wiseman, Valerie Taylor, Elizabeth Liney, Joan Golden, Robert Peters, Françoise Groves-de-Milleret, Lisa Collins, Maureen Alderman, Alison Stevens, Malcolm McCann

We give thanks for the improvement in the health of Henry

We also pray for Keith Downes, Jayne Hutton, Janet Daniels, Susan North, Julia, Tessa, Linda, Nicola Stiff, Ron Golden, Ricky Mella, Sasha Burt, David Evans, Richard Barnes, Dave Gough, Pauline Phillips, Keith Probert, Prussia Blake, Charlotte, Steven Seal

The recently departed

Those whose anniversary of death falls this week

Gregor Ross, June Twyman, Peter Nisbett, Harold Summers, Gladys Hancock, Michael Flower, Barbara Stratton, Peter Twyman, Pearl Aslett, Gwen Reyre

Those preparing for Holy Matrimony Christopher Brennan and Lottie Rae Zimmermann-Moles

Our parish We remember those who live and work in Wagon Road, Watkins Rise and Wayside

Fr Stefan Chrysostomou, Vicar Tel: 01707 859028

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Please send any items for this sheet to **Richard Osborn**

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COLLECT

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
be praise and honour, glory and might,
now and in all eternity.

FIRST READING

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

Either **Acts 10:34-43**

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

Peter began to speak to those assembled in the house of Cornelius. "I truly understand that God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ – he is Lord of all. That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

Or **Jeremiah 31:1-6**

A reading from the book of the prophet Jeremiah.

At that time, says the LORD, I will be the God of all the families of Israel, and they shall be my people. Thus says the LORD: The people who survived the sword found grace in the wilderness; when Israel sought for rest, the LORD appeared to him from far away. I have loved you with an everlasting love; therefore I have continued my faithfulness to you. Again I will build you, and you shall be built, O virgin Israel! Again you shall take your tambourines, and go forth in the dance of the merrymakers. Again you shall plant vineyards on the mountains of Samaria; the planters shall plant, and shall enjoy the fruit. For there shall be a day when sentinels will call in the hill country of Ephraim: "Come, let us go up to Zion, to the LORD our God."

PSALM

Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24 (or 118:14-24)

R *I will give thanks to you, for you have become my salvation.*



O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;
his mercy endures for ever.
Let Israel now proclaim,
"His mercy endures for ever." **R**

The Lord is my strength and my song,
and he has become my salvation.
Joyful shouts of salvation
sound from the tents of the righteous:
"The right hand of the Lord does mighty deeds;
the right hand of the Lord raises up;
the right hand of the Lord does mighty deeds." **R**

I shall not die, but live
and declare the works of the Lord.
The Lord has punished me sorely,
but he has not given me over to death.
Open to me the gates of righteousness,
that I may enter and give thanks to the Lord. **R**

This is the gate of the Lord;
the righteous shall enter through it.
I will give thanks to you,
for you have answered me
and have become my salvation. **R**

The stone which the builders rejected
has become the chief cornerstone.
This is the Lord's doing,
and it is marvellous in our eyes.
This is the day that the Lord has made;
we will rejoice and be glad in it. **R**

SECOND READING

Either **Colossians 3:1-4**

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Colossians.

If you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth, for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.

Or **Acts 10:34-43**

GOSPEL

Either **John 20:1-18**

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

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him." Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went towards the tomb. The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, and the cloth that had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also

went in, and he saw and believed; for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. Then the disciples returned to their homes. But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. They said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping?" She said to them, "They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him." When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? For whom are you looking?" Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away." Jesus said to her, "Mary!" She turned and said to him in Hebrew, "Rabbouni!" which means Teacher. Jesus said to her, "Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.'" Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord"; and she told them that he had said these things to her.

Or **Matthew 28:1-10**

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

After the sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. And suddenly there was a great earthquake; for an angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. For fear of him the guards shook and became like dead men. But the angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid; I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. He is not here; for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. Then go quickly and tell his disciples, 'He has been raised from the dead, and indeed he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him.' This is my message for you." So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. Suddenly Jesus met them and said, "Greetings!" And they came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshipped him. Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me."

POST COMMUNION

God of Life,
who for our redemption gave your only-begotten
Son
to the death of the cross,
and by his glorious resurrection
have delivered us from the power of our enemy:
grant us so to die daily to sin,
that we may evermore live with him
in the joy of his risen life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

