



## Twyning Parish Church Newsletter 2026

### Adapted from a Message from Bishop Rachel

Many of you will be aware that a few weeks ago the General Synod of the Church of England met in London to debate and take decisions on a number of significant matters, and it was good to be there alongside Bishop Robert and the seven wonderful members from this diocese.



As always, it has been quite frustrating reading some of the media reports, particularly when it came to the reporting on the five hour debate focused on 'Living in Love and Faith' (LLF). Much of the reporting has implied that where we have reached is the final end of the road, rather than a recognition that it is more akin to arriving at a significant and painful crossroads. The process entitled 'Living in Love and Faith' has ended, and a new road has been agreed. Synod approved a motion confirming the LLF programme is to conclude and a new working group to be established. In arriving at this crossroads, many people have had to give up much, and it has been costly and painful, most pointedly for so many LGBTQI+ sisters and brothers ...

Throughout General Synod, at points of decision-making whether on legislative matters or debates focused on different spheres of the Church's mission, moments of voting often felt like standing at a crossroads to see where our collective listening to different perspectives and stories coming from different angles, might take us.

For me, that sense of crossroads and places of crossing, resonated strongly with the theme of Lent, as we looked within ourselves and our communities — our desires, longings and temptations — and the choices ever before us, as we are called to deny ourselves and take up our cross.

In Lent, some of us received crosses of ash on our forehead, reminding us not only of our fragility and brokenness, as we are called to remember 'that we are dust and to dust we shall return', but also of our beautiful abiding in Christ. The cross of Christ does indeed mark the intersection of two very different paths.

I love the story of the Rabbi who proclaimed that having two pockets is important. In the one pocket there should be a slip of paper with the words '*I am dust and ashes*' and in the other, a slip of paper with the words '*For my sake was the world created.*'

I hope that in the coming days, we will find ways of creating space to inhabit deeper prayer and reflection on Scripture, and allow ourselves to reach places of crossroads and crossing within us as individuals and communities: to have courage to acknowledge our sin and

failings while also discovering yet more of our beauty and potential as we open ourselves to the overwhelming love and grace of God.

In Gloucester, the main streets are named after the points of the compass: Northgate, Southgate, Westgate and Eastgate, and they converge at a place known as 'The Cross'. Indeed, it is not unusual for people to choose this as a meeting place – Guy and I often agree to meet in town 'at the cross'.

This might be a very good metaphor for us to carry into Easter. As we keep our eyes on Christ's cross, yet already with the empty tomb on the horizon, may there be surprising places within us, between us and around us of 'meeting at the cross' – and if giving something up (or taking something on) enables this to happen, then rejoice.

With my thanks and prayers as ever,



## A Prayer for Easter



Lord Jesus,

I thank you for the peace you offer through your Resurrection.

When I'm troubled draw me to your calming presence;

replace anxiety with trust and fear with assurance;

let Your peace guard my heart and mind today;

help me rest in the truth that you are alive, in control and near.

May your Resurrection peace fill my home, my relationships, and my soul this Easter.

## From the Parish Registers

Funeral and Burial

13<sup>th</sup> March 2026

José Turl

RIP

## Baptism anniversaries

This month we celebrate the anniversaries of the Baptisms

on 6<sup>th</sup> April 2023: **Reuben Edward**      **Poppy Elizabeth**

**Isadora Emilia**      **Isabella Rose**

on 30<sup>th</sup> April 2023: **Roseanna Summer**

on 21<sup>st</sup> April 2024: **Amaya Elizabeth**

Please remember them and their families in your prayers.



## MOTHERING SUNDAY thanks



Mothering Sunday this year fell on March 15<sup>th</sup>. It was a day to honour mothers, grandmothers, and other mother figures, giving us time to plan celebrations or send our love. In our service we thanked God for our earthly opportunities for mothering and being mothered and we also remembered the mothering parenthood of God.

Thank you to Ven. Ron for leading this memorable time, to Pam, who again kindly, provided the beautiful plants distributed to the ladies, to Rosie for expertly playing us out and to Fiona who baked and decorated the wonderful Simnel cake – it was delicious!

# SERVICES AND EVENTS

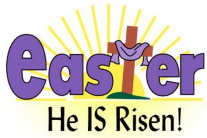
## APRIL

Apr 2<sup>nd</sup> **MAUNDY THURSDAY** 2.30pm Lent Reading Group  
5pm **HOLY COMMUNION**

Apr 3<sup>rd</sup> **GOOD FRIDAY**



10.30am Coffee Morning with hot cross buns at Twyning Chapel, leaving at  
11.30am Pilgrimage walk to Twyning Church, Family Lunch plus Activities  
2.30pm A Service of Reflection on the Crucifixion in Church



Apr 5<sup>th</sup> **EASTER DAY** 9.30am **FAMILY COMMUNION**

Apr 8 <sup>th</sup>	Wednesday	10-12	PARISH COFFEE MORNING with Caroline & David, Tudor Cottage, Church End
Apr 12 <sup>th</sup>	Sunday	9.30am	PARISH COMMUNION with <b>Acorns Stall</b> and <b>Refreshments</b>
Apr 13 <sup>th</sup>	Monday	1.30pm	Open the Book Twyning School
Apr 14 <sup>th</sup>	Tuesday	7.30pm	Annual Parochial Church Meeting in church
Apr 18 <sup>th</sup>	Saturday	9-12.30	Glos & Bristol Bellringers Association ringing competition + hospitality in church
Apr 19 <sup>th</sup>	Sunday	9.30am	MORNING PRAISE
Apr 26 <sup>th</sup>	Sunday	9.30am	PARISH COMMUNION + <b>Refreshments</b>



## MAY

May 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Sunday	9.30am	PARISH COMMUNION
May 6 <sup>th</sup>	Wednesday	7.00pm	Bellringers AGM in church
May 10 <sup>th</sup>	Sunday	9.30am	PARISH COMMUNION with <b>Acorns Stall</b> and <b>Refreshments</b>
May 12 <sup>th</sup>	Wednesday	10-12	PARISH COFFEE MORNING with Vera and Ron at Whistledown, The Green
May 14 <sup>th</sup>	Thursday	time tbc	ASCENSION DAY COMMUNION at Tewkesbury Abbey
May 17 <sup>th</sup>	Sunday	9.30am	MORNING PRAISE
May 24 <sup>th</sup>	Sunday	9.30am	PARISH COMMUNION + <b>Refreshments</b>
May 31 <sup>st</sup>	Sunday	9.30am	PARISH COMMUNION

## Readings, Readers & Hymns

9.30am unless time given	readings [small lectionary]	1 <sup>st</sup> & 2 <sup>nd</sup> readings	hymns NEH unless stated
2 <sup>nd</sup> April Maundy Thursday at <b>5pm</b>	Exodus 12.1-4,11-14 1 Corinthians 11.23-26 p145 John 13.1-17,31b-35	tbc	
5 <sup>th</sup> April <i>Easter Day</i> Family Communion	Acts 10.34-43 p191 Colossians 3.1-4 Matthew 28.1-10	Jac Taylor	112 Jesus lives! Thy terrors 110 Jesus Christ is risen today 117 The day of resurrection 120 Thine be the glory
12 <sup>th</sup> April Easter 2 Parish Communion	Acts 2.14a,22-32 p197 1 Peter 1.3-9 John 20.19-31	Mandy Hunt	124 Ye choirs of new Jerusalem 339 Be thou my vision 112 Jesus lives! Thy terrors 106 Come ye faithful, raise
19 <sup>th</sup> April Easter 3 Morning Praise	Acts 2.14a,36-41 p200 1 Peter 1.17-23 Luke 24.13-35	Lucy Jones	91 I danced in the morning JP 192 Our Father who is in heaven 50 Give me oil in my lamp
26 <sup>th</sup> April Easter 4 Parish Communion	Acts 2.42-47 p204 1 Peter 2.19-25 John 10.1-10	Vera Hesketh	349 Come let us join 113 Love's redeeming work 408 Love Divine, all loves excelling 436 Praise, my soul the King
3 <sup>rd</sup> May Easter 5 Parish Communion	Acts 7.55-60 p207 1 Peter 2.2-10 John 14.1-14	Mike Jones	103 Alleluya, alleluya hearts 343 Bright the vision 146 Holy, holy, holy 106 Come ye faithful
10 <sup>th</sup> May Easter 6 Parish Communion	Acts 17.22-31 p210 1 Peter 3.13-22 John 14.15-21	Nicola McKeever	64 Be thou my guardian 124 Ye choirs of new Jerusalem 374 How sweet the name 484 The Church's 1 foundation
17 <sup>th</sup> May Easter 7 Morning Praise	contemporary John 17.1-11	Olivia	tbc
24 <sup>th</sup> May <i>Pentecost</i> Parish Communion	Acts 2.1-21 p221 1 Corinthians 12.3b-13 John 14.15-31a	Arthur Storey	137 Come down O love divine 342 Breathe on me 138 Come, Holy Ghost 139(i) Come. Thou Holy Spirit
31 <sup>st</sup> May Trinity Sunday Parish Communion	Isaiah 40.12-17, 27-31 2 Corinthians 13.11-13 Matthew 28.16-20 p229	Richard Bailey	62 I, the Lord of sea and sky 12 As the deer pants RED 162 Seek ye first 123 Lord the light of your love

Our website: <http://www.achurchnearyou.com/twyning-st-mary-magdalene>

**Everyone is always welcome at all our services. Contact us on:**

Vicar:	Rev'd Canon Nick Davies	01684 850 959
Reader & Parish Lay Minister:	Angela Cole	01684 294 325
Churchwarden:	Chris Cole	01684 294 325
Hon. Treasurer:	Richard Bailey	01684 298 268

# Family Easter Trails

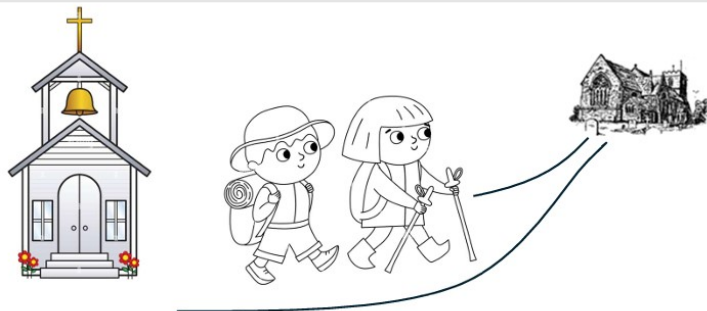
During the Easter Holidays bring your youngsters to Twynning Church in Church End, to enjoy three fantastic Easter trails, around and inside the Church and pick up an Easter egg!!



This activity is open to youngsters of all ages; trail sheets are in the church porch. Any queries please email [angelacole135@hotmail.com](mailto:angelacole135@hotmail.com) or [emilyhastingsactingup@gmail.com](mailto:emilyhastingsactingup@gmail.com)

**This event is brought to you by Twynning Church and Twynning Chapel.**

Also for families:



## Chapel to Church Good Friday Family Nature Trail

**10.30** Twynning Chapel **Coffee Morning**  
with Hot Cross Buns

**11.30** **Nature walk** to Church End

**12.15** Soup and roll **lunch** (free)

**1pm** Family **scavenger hunts** and  
**activities** (win a chocolate egg!)

**2.30** **Good Friday Service**



**Join in whatever you fancy!**

An important date for your diary:

## Twyning Church's Annual Meeting (APCM)

Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> April at 7.30pm in church

Please put this date and time in your diary. This is an important meeting in the life of our church – do come if you can.

### Additional Service Booklets



Canon Nick is introducing seasonal service books in Twyning, as he is doing at the Abbey. In addition to the now familiar booklets for 'ordinary' times, he is gradually introducing service orders for Lent, *Easter-tide*, *Advent and Christmas*. We thank all who have been, and will be, involved in producing these - to make the passing of the church seasons more obvious and their celebration more meaningful.

### What is the Parish Giving Scheme?

PGS enables you to give to your chosen church monthly, quarterly or annually by Direct Debit. You can set up your Direct Debit online, fill in a gift form at church, or call our team and we will talk you through it, step by step. You can also make a one-off gift to your church online at any time. At PGS, we make it safe and easy for you to give and just as safe and easy for your church to receive. We process gifts and Gift Aid on your church's behalf, so every pound you give can be put to Christian service in your community.

A unique feature of PGS is the option for givers to increase their gift annually in line with inflation. While this is a voluntary decision, it is one that could potentially have a huge impact on the life and future of your church. We'll calculate the difference each year and notify you in advance to ask if you're happy to increase your gift by the cost of living. If you manage your giving online, you can easily change the amount you give at any time. Alternatively, you can contact us, & we'll adjust the gift for you. If eligible & you give permission, we can reclaim Gift Aid at 25% for Twyning Church.

#### The Parish Giving Scheme helps you to:

- Give monthly, quarterly or annually by Direct Debit
- Make a one-off gift
- Sign up to inflation-linked giving annually, if you choose
- Enhance your giving by adding Gift Aid at 25% to your gift
- Give anonymously, if you prefer
- Give securely

There are three ways in which you can set up a Direct Debit to give regularly to Twyning church

Via paper 'Gift Form' – available from your PGS parish representative

Via our telephone service on 0333 002 1271, Monday to Friday, 9am - 5pm

Via a website [info@parishgiving.org.uk](mailto:info@parishgiving.org.uk) using the 'Find my parish' search tool,

Although payments are made to PGS, gifts will only be made to the parish you specify and cannot be used elsewhere. Our team will process your Gift Aid declaration, where applicable, and then the gift will be passed back to your parish by the 10th of the month. The Gift Aid sum will be sent separately once we have received it from HMRC.

\*\*\*\* **If you feel that you can contribute to Twyning Church in this way, please speak to Richard Bailey, our Hon Church Treasurer.**

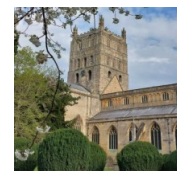
## Spring seedlings - a suggestion



You may have sown some seeds, for vegetables or flowers, and find that you have too many. If so, it would be good if you could bring the the spare seedlings to the church porch & leave them for others who've not been as forward thinking (or able!!) I'm sure there would be others who would be glad to have these and grow them on – all good for the world!!



## Benefice of Tewkesbury Abbey with Walton Cardiff & Twynning



*We are part of the Benefice of **Tewkesbury with Walton Cardiff & Twynning** with Revd Canon Nick Davies as our vicar*

*For the full list of Easter Services, please see the Abbey website.*

**Holy Saturday | 4 April**  
8pm Easter Liturgy

**Easter Day | 5 April**  
10.30am High Mass  
*with children's church*  
5pm Solemn Evensong  
*with Te Deum*

## The Abbey Shop

A warm welcome is waiting for you in the Abbey Shop, located in St James' Chapel within the Abbey. You will find a selection of guidebooks about the Abbey alongside a wide range of gifts, cards and souvenirs. We also sell tickets for Abbey Tours, talks and concerts. Please note the Abbey Shop is taking card purchases only.

**The Abbey Shop is now open**

**Mon – Sat: 10am – 4pm**

**Sun: After the morning service until 4pm.**



## The Abbey Garden Cafe

Our cafe is located in the Visitor Centre. Join us for delicious homemade food, drinks and cakes made by our experienced staff. Whether it be for lunch or a light snack, we're sure to have something that meets your needs. Do come in and say hi. Please note that the cafe takes cards only. There are toilets also inside the Visitor Centre.

**The Abbey Garden Cafe is now open**

**Mon – Sat: 9am – 4pm; Sun: 11am – 3pm**

**Breakfast served from 9am to 11:30am**

**Lunch served from 11:30am to 2:30pm**



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Licensed bar State of the art kitchen Full PA system with hearing loop.

Booking Secretary: Delta Ferguson To request a booking please use this link:

<https://www.twyningvillage.co.uk/village-hall>

Email: [bookings@twyningvillagehall.org.uk](mailto:bookings@twyningvillagehall.org.uk)

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**Mike Bennett 1 Abbots Court Drive, Church End - [www.piedpiperappeal.co.uk](http://www.piedpiperappeal.co.uk)**

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