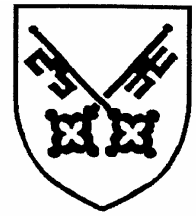




St Peter's Church Magazine



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St Peter's Church, Newlands Avenue, Didcot ❖ www.stpeters-didcot.org.uk
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Easter 2016—Resurrection Hope

Dear Friends,

Happy Easter!

Recently in a local shop, when I wished someone a “Happy Easter”, the person beside me went “Pah!” – making a rude and derogatory noise.

As I walked home, I thought – “Well, that’s understandable considering the recent events in Paris, Brussels etc”.

There must be many people who feel that at present there is little to rejoice about.

Sometimes even we Christians become disheartened – we look at the world around us and all looks rather depressing – and we feel dispirited.

Then I thought of those first followers of Jesus – they must have been scared out of their wits!

Their Leader – Jesus – had just been put to death on a cross as a criminal. They had good reason to be terrified in the circumstances and locked themselves in the Upper Room.

No wonder that when people like Mary Magdalene and her friends said they had seen Jesus alive and well – risen from the dead – they just did not believe a word of what they said.

Yet only six weeks later, those same terrified men and women went out on the streets of Jerusalem boldly stating that Jesus, whom the authorities had so brutally killed, was alive

– for God had raised him from the dead.

As we celebrate again the great festival of Easter, when our Lord rose

from the dead and gave us a hope that takes us beyond this life. We also look forward to the coming of the Holy Spirit – that Third Mysterious Person of the Godhead who transformed those first frightened and bewildered followers of Jesus. The Holy Spirit gave them the courage to go and do all that Jesus commanded them. From the security of the Upper Room, they went out on to the streets of Jerusalem – stood before the great court of the Sanhedrin – and fearlessly proclaimed the facts of the Resurrection.

So the Good News of Jesus’ Resurrection has spread throughout the world – until our present day.

As time has passed, we perhaps need to adapt the way we tell others of the good news about Jesus and his Resurrection. I read recently that wherever he goes Pope Francis always carries with him a medal of the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

The person who gave him this medal used to help his mother with household chores and laundry. Her goodness, kindness and generosity made a lasting impression on Francis. This is something from which we can all take heart.

We can all do simple acts of kindness and remember those we meet in our prayers – the Holy Spirit will do the rest!

I end by quoting the words of Oscar Romero - a wonderful Christian who was murdered as he celebrated the Eucharist at Easter in 1980. I would ask you to spend time over the next weeks before Pentecost – think

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St John's Guild

St John's Guild in Didcot was started in 1980 by the then vicar Rev C Hewetson who appointed his curate Rev Edwin Clements as the first chaplain. Over the past 36 years the Guild has been an integral part of the life of St Peter's church and well supported by all the Vicars, PCCs and church members. In 1987 Rosemary Pryor joined the group and has been an active member ever since. In 1994/5 she took up the responsibility of being Secretary which has involved her in many aspects of the running of the group. Not least in helping to arrange interesting speakers, organise outings and keeping in touch with all the members and arranging lifts for them to meetings when needed. She faithfully picks up people and also collects the sandwiches & cakes and brings table cloths & flower arrangements every meeting.



Rosemary Pryor, seated, with members of St John's Guild.

At the recent Guild AGM Rosemary stood down as secretary and the members want to thank her for her 20 years service. She was presented with two flower arrangements, one from the local members and the other from St John's Guild HQ which was presented by Anne Able a Guild Trustee. Rosemary will continue to be part of the Guild and we are grateful for all she has done and continues to do.

*Revd Josie Midwinter
Didcot Branch Chaplain*

Easter 2016

(Continued from page 1)

about these words – pray about them – let them comfort you – let them inspire you.

“It helps now and then to step back and take a long view.

The Kingdom of God is not only beyond our efforts, it is beyond our vision.

We accomplish in our lifetime only a fraction of the magnificent enterprise that is God's work.

Nothing we do is complete.

No statement says all that could be said.

No prayer fully expresses our faith.

No program accomplishes the Church's mission.

No set of goals and objectives include everything.

This is what we are about.

We plant the seeds that one day will grow.

We water the seeds already planted knowing that they hold future promise.

We lay foundations that will need further development.

We provide yeast that produces effects far beyond our capabilities.

We cannot do everything, and there is a sense of liberation in realizing this.

This enables us to do something, and to do it very well.

It may be incomplete, but it is a beginning, a step along the way, an opportunity for the Lord's grace to enter and do the rest.

We may never see the end results, but that is the difference between the master builder and the worker.

We are workers - not master builders, ministers - not messiahs.

We are prophets of a future not our own.”

Like that Italian lady who inspired Pope Francis – we too can inspire those around us, when the Holy Spirit is at work within us.

Ernest Adley

What can Love do? - An Easter reflection poem

What can Love do?
How should it respond?
In forgotten days it gave you life,
In long-lost times it walked with you,
Close together then in joyous unison,
Over virgin plains and under velvet skies,
By satin streams reflecting argent beams,
Of a younger moon beset in heaven's high
canvas;
And day-by-day through fruit-filled trees,
Cool beneath the verdant cast of dappled
shades,
And over fertile soil richly warmed by days of
sun.

But then with sinuous diversion you,
Rejected Love with scorn and lies,
And drove a stake through Love's pure heart,
And pushed away and hid yourself,
And caused Love then to hide its face.

Oh what depths of pain you wrought,
In that first piercing of the immortal heart,
A foreshadow e'en of future time it brought,
And a welling then of those eternal tears,
Which spilled and flowed like falls descend,
In mighty flood for days on end,
To ravage and rage and scrub the land,
In effort thus to wash the hurts away,
And clear the lands for second chance.

But in rejection still you continued thus,
To smite and smash, to cuss and crush,
The words of love and restoration sent,
And oh so truly spoken through
The lips of faithful messengers mine,
Their prophecies all, from major to minor,
From whispers to shouts to call you home:
But Lo! From them you turned,
And spilled their blood in your evil ways.

So what then could Love do?
So hurt and pained beyond belief,
It hid its face again in stark relief,
And waited thus to act its final plan,
Which first was forged in those immortal days,
By that first piercing of purest heart.

And so in time it came to earth itself,
Incarnate then in mortal flesh,
A babe in arms, so weak and small,
It bid its time 'till grown and tall,

Then served and taught in humbleness,
And God touched man with flesh on flesh.

But still you wouldn't hear,
Oh first-born of Love how blind you were!
How deaf, how riddled through,
With evil thoughts of power and greed;
And in that state you tortured Love itself,
You laid it bare upon a cross,
And pierced its heart with thine own hand

In jubilation then you thought it done,
That you had struck and then had won,
And danced around the feet of Love,
To cheer and jeer at him above.

But then your world collapsed,
The curtain of your heart was torn,
And darkness fled across the land,
The folly of your deeds were scorn.

Yes! Death itself was beaten then!
For Love fought on and slayed its foe,
Its goal achieved to overthrow,
That final span 'twixt God and man,
And rose again to end the woe.

Oh how strange and how imponderous,
That piercing pain which first did grieve,
Could later lead, in stark relief,
To piercing wounds upon itself,
And thence to vict'ry once, for all,
Forgiveness, healing, redemption, love,
So pure and selfless, giv'n in Grace,
So humankind could be to God restored.

For what else can Love do?
When so hurt and so despised?
You fool! Are you still so blind?
Cannot yet you see?
And will you still reject?
Oh what else did you expect! -
For truly Love can only love.

*Nick Fielden
March 2016*

Prayer Intentions: April 2016

<p>1st: Readings: Psalm 115; Exodus 13:17-14:14; 1 Corinthians 15:35-50.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Loyd Road, Elder Close. Our choir and Director of Music</p>	<p>2nd: Readings: Psalm 116; Exodus 14:15-end; 1 Corinthians 15:51-end.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Cockcroft Road, Mowbray Road. Those who clean and care for the Church</p>	<p>3rd: Easter II Readings: Psalm 136; 1 Peter 1:3-12; Galatians 4:1-5.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Barnes Road, Barnes Close. Persecuted Christians and all those who suffer and die for their faith.</p>	<p>4th: Annunciation Readings: Psalm 111; 113; 1 Samuel 2:1-10; Romans 5:12-end.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Edwin Road. Our clergy and those at All Saints, particularly Fr Mark and his ministry on GWP.</p>
<p>5th: Readings: Psalm 8; Exodus 15:22-16:10; Colossians 1:15-end.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Green Road; Green Close. All those who read lessons in St Peter's.</p>	<p>6th: Readings: Psalm 30; Exodus 16:11-end; Colossians 2:1-15.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Royal Berkshire Close. Wednesday Church, their leaders and all those who care for those with learning disabilities.</p>	<p>7th: Readings: Psalm 28; Exodus 17; Colossians 2:16-3:11.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Queensway; Hardings Strings. Bishop Colin, Archdeacon Judy and their staff.</p>	<p>8th: Readings: Psalm 61; Exodus 18:1-12; Colossians 3:12-4:1.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Tavistock Avenue; Bowness Avenue. Those who clean the church.</p>
<p>9th: Readings: Psalm 84; Exodus 18:13-end; Colossians 4:2-end.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Warner Crescent; Morse Road. Didcot Police Station and all who work from there.</p>	<p>10th: Easter III Readings: Psalm 80; Isaiah 38:9-20; John 11:17-44.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: South Park Avenue; Downs Road. Our Sacristan and those who clean the linens and prepare the church for worship.</p>	<p>11th: Readings: Psalm 96; Exodus 19; Ephesians 1:1-14</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Newlands Avenue. Larch Drive. Didcot TRAIN and their Youth Workers.</p>	<p>12th: Readings: Psalm 98; Exodus 20:1-21; Ephesians 1:15-end.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Glebe Rd; Lynmouth Rd. Those who pray for the Church: the prayer group and the intercessors on Sundays.</p>
<p>13th: Readings: Psalm 72; Exodus 24; Ephesians 2:1-10.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Craven Way; Hillary Dr; Lockinge Close. Wednesday Fellowship and those who work to make it happen. The APCM.</p>	<p>14th: Readings: Psalm 73; Exodus 25:1-22; Ephesians 2:11-end.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Cullen Place; Hanover Court. Those who work maintaining the Church grounds.</p>	<p>15th: Readings: Psalms 31; Exodus 28:1-4, 29-38; Ephesians 3:1-13.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Clarence Place, Frideswide's Court. Didcot Community Gospel Choir.</p>	<p>16th: Readings: Psalm 110; Exodus 29:1-9; Ephesians 3:14-end.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Wantage Road; Colbourne Road. Our new PCC and Church Wardens.</p>

Prayer Intentions: April 2016

<p>17th: Easter IV Readings: Psalm 113,114; Isaiah 63:7-14; Luke 24:36-49.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Barleyfields; Elbourne. St Peter's Outreach to the community.</p>	<p>18th: Readings: Psalm 44; Exodus 32:1-14; Ephesians 4:1-16.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Drake Avenue; Collingwood Avenue. Little Fishes</p>	<p>19th: Readings: Psalm 48; Exodus 32:15-34; Ephesians 4:17-end.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Park Road; Park Close. Our Healing Ministry Team.</p>	<p>20th: Readings: Psalm 135; Exodus 33; Ephesians 5:1-14.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Garden Close; Rutherford Place. Our house-bound members of St Peter's, the Eucharistic Ministers.</p>
<p>21st: Anselm Readings: Psalm 57; Exodus 34:1-10, 27-end; Ephesians 5:15-end.</p> <p>Archbishop of Canterbury under William II and during the period of Pope Urban II and Antipope Clement. A Benedictine scholar and founder of Scholasticism.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Norreys Road; Norreys Close. Alton Abbey.</p>	<p>22nd: Readings: Psalm 51; Exodus 35:20-36:7; Ephesians 6:1-9.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Meadow Way; Brunel Road. Those who provide refreshments for services and events at Church.</p>	<p>23rd: George Readings: Psalm 5, 146; Joshua 1:1-9; Ephesians 6:10-20.</p> <p>Believed to have been born in Lydda, in modern Palestine, in the late 3rd Century. A Roman Soldier who converted and was martyred for his Christian Faith.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Portway; Wheatfields. Our Queen, Supreme Governor of the Church of England.</p>	<p>24th: Easter V Readings: Psalm 16; 2 Samuel 7:4-13; Acts 2:14, 22-32.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Cromwell Drive; St Ann's Court. Our Ordinands and those learning alongside them.</p>
<p>25th: Mark Readings: Psalm 45; Isaiah 62:6-10; Acts 12:25-13:13.</p> <p>Presumed to be one of the 70 disciples sent out by Jesus, also identified as John Mark or Mark the Cousin of Barnabas. Little is known as fact about the writer of the Gospel of St Mark.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: St Hilda's Close; St Hugh's Rise. Didcot Community Hospital, all who use the facilities and who work there.</p>	<p>26th: Readings: Psalm 19; Numbers 11:1-33; 1 Peter 1:13-end.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Campion Hall Drive; Pebble Drive. St John's Guild, those who work for and with those with visual disabilities.</p>	<p>27th: Readings: Psalm 30; Numbers 12; 1 Peter 2:1-10.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Stonesfield; Mansfield Gardens. Didcot Library, its users and staff.</p>	<p>28th: Readings: Psalm 78:1-39; Numbers 13:1-3, 17-end; 1 Peter 2:11-end.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Linacre Close; Balliol Drive. Our Ministry Team.</p>
<p>29th: Catherine of Siena Readings: Psalm 66; Numbers 14:1-25; 1 Peter 3:1-12.</p> <p>Born in 1347, the 23rd child of a family of cloth dyers in Siena, she dedicated herself as a third order nun of the Dominican Order. She was active in restoring the Papacy to Rome, from its exile in France. She is one of the few female Doctors of the Church (i.e. A theologian of note, as recognised by the Vatican)</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Sycamore Way; Willow End; Northbourne and Willowcroft Schools.</p>		<p>30th: Readings: Psalm 146; Numbers 14:26-end; 1 Peter 3:13-end.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Buckingham Close; Balmoral Road. The Quiz n Chips team, those who raise funds for the ministry of St Peter's.</p>	

Subscription and website information

St Peter's offers a few ways in which one can keep up-to-date with events and happenings at the church—the website, the monthly magazine, the weekly news-sheet.

The website—www.stpeters-didcot.org.uk is updated on a weekly basis.

If you would like to subscribe to the monthly magazine or electronically receive the weekly news-sheet, please contact the editor, Margaret Meardon, on 01235 210525 or email maurice.meardon@ntlworld.com.

Didcot All Saints' & The Ladygrove Church Services

All Saints'

- Sunday 8:00 AM The Holy Eucharist (Common Worship Order One, Traditional Language)
- 10:00 AM The Parish Eucharist (Except first Sunday of Month)
- 10:00 AM Family Service (First Sunday of Month)
- 6:30 PM The Holy Eucharist with a hymn and Prayer for Healing (Common Worship Order One, Traditional Language, First Sunday of Month)
- Tuesday 9:30 AM The Holy Eucharist (Common Worship Order One, Traditional Language)

The Ladygrove Church

- Sunday 9.00 AM Morning worship
- Sunday 10:00 AM Refreshments for those attending either service.
- Sunday 10.30 AM Morning worship with children's groups (changes each Sunday—see notice sheet)

- Last Sunday of the month:
7.00 PM Evening service

Next issue

Wednesday 20 April 2016 is the next magazine deadline. Please telephone or email the editor with any articles—210525 or maurice.meardon@ntlworld.com

OPEN DOOR RETREAT

A retreat in everyday
life



Venue:
All Saints' Church
Lydalls Road, Didcot, OX11 7EA

Wednesday evenings
beginning on April 20th for 10 weeks
(No session on June 1st)

7.30 – 9.30 p.m.

Further details from:
Sue Sheppey
(susan.sheppey@btinternet.com)
Karen Beck
(karen.beck140@gmail.com)

Services

Sundays

8.00AM Book of
Common Prayer Holy
Communion.
10.00AM Parish Sung
Eucharist
6.00PM Evensong
(1st Sunday in month)

Weekday Offices

Morning Prayer:
usually said at 8.30AM
on weekdays (except
Fridays) & Saturday.

Weekday Services

Tuesday 12.00NOON
Little Fishes Eucharist

Thursday 9.30AM
Eucharist

**The Sacrament is
reserved at St Peter's
and is available to any
who wish to receive it
in their home or in the
hospital.**

Registers

**Funerals 'may they rest in peace and rise in
glory'**

Rose James
Lilian Elsie Sawyer
Wendy Buckingham
Patricia Moore



THE UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE

Didcot & District University of the Third Age

DIDCOT & DISTRICT UNIVERSITY OF
THE THIRD AGE meetings are held on the
third Tuesday of each month at 2pm at
Didcot Civil Hall. Visitors are welcome to
come to a meeting as a taster before joining.

**Our next meeting on 19th April 2016 will be our
Annual General Meeting. Following this our
speaker will be Pam Jones, National Chair.**

It's never too late to expand your horizons.....

The University of the Third Age offers the
opportunity to share your knowledge, experience and
talents with others and learn from them in friendly
surroundings. Why not come along to the next
meeting of the Didcot & District U3A and find out
what we are all about. A member of our committee
will be on hand to make you welcome.

Tel: 07802 237963

Email: didcotdistrictU3A@virginmedia.com

Website: <http://u3asites.org.uk/didcot>

Year's Mind for April

- | | | |
|----|----------------------|-----------------------|
| 1 | Daisy Parris | Frederick Turner |
| | Agnes Bennett | Evelyn Taylor |
| | Nellie Warne | Edith Gibbens |
| | Roy Hammond | Bernard Measor |
| | Muriel Breeze | 18 Roland Evans |
| 2 | Gladys Rhodes | 19 Horace Parsons |
| 3 | Edward Green | Dorothy Butler |
| | Denis Day | Florence Mitchel |
| 4 | Herbert Sturt | Frank Swadling |
| | Stephen Smith | Hilda Jamison |
| | Albert James | 20 Vicki Shunker |
| | Annie Town | William Price |
| 5 | William Parris | Hilda Timson |
| 6 | George Hill | 21 George Hill |
| | Clifford Bradbeer | Louis Tierney |
| | James Glen | 22 Catherine Stephens |
| 7 | Craig Williams | Eva West |
| | Maud Town | Laura Meredith |
| | Alfred Barham | Doris Cracknell |
| 8 | Ruth Turner | 23 William Marshall |
| | Arthur Hine | Doreen Stevens |
| 9 | Kate Goldring | 24 |
| | Christopher Purdy | 25 George Eustace |
| | Alec Oakes | William Cole |
| | Marjorie Cox | Christopher Cooke |
| 10 | John Lang | Leona Cooke |
| | Barbara Hughes | Ida Blow |
| | Margaret Williamson | 26 James Hall |
| | Mary Ann Thomas | Mary Hill |
| 11 | Gladys Wear | Eric Thurman |
| 12 | William Burrows | Victor Parsons |
| | Ronald Davis | 27 Bob Pease |
| | Sarah Powditch | Frederick Church |
| 13 | (Clive) Fraser Smith | 28 Laura Milne |
| 14 | Rose Hitchcock | Clifford Jones |
| | Olive Sheffard | Mary Evans |
| 15 | Eliza Rickett | Alma Tanner |
| 16 | Clara Gorton | Graham Hatt |
| | Norman Thrift | 29 Charles Ackerman |
| 17 | Edward Hall | 30 Ellen Price |

Church Calendar for April 2016

Friday 1

6.45PM Choir Practice

Sunday 3 Second Sunday of Easter

8.00AM Book of Common Prayer Holy Communion.

8.45AM Parish Breakfast in Church.

10.00AM Sung Eucharist.

10.00AM Sunday school.

Tuesday 5

7.30PM Didcot Choral Society rehearsal.

Wednesday 6

10.00AM Wednesday Church.

7.30PM Didcot Community Gospel Choir rehearsal.

Thursday 7

9.30AM Said Mass (MU)

Friday 8

6.45PM Choir practice.

Sunday 10 Third Sunday of Easter

8.00AM BCP Holy Communion.

8.45AM Parish Breakfast in Church.

10.00AM Sung Eucharist.

Monday 11

9.30-11.30AM Rhymes and Signs

Tuesday 12

12.00NOON Little Fishes.

7.30PM Didcot Choral Society rehearsal.

Wednesday 13

11.45AM Wednesday Fellowship.

7.30PM Eucharist followed by APCM.

Thursday 14

9.30AM Healing Mass.

Friday 15

6.45PM Choir practice.

Saturday 16

7.30PM Quiz 'n' Chips
(Doors open 7.00PM)

Sunday 17 Fourth Sunday of Easter

8.00AM Book of Common Prayer Holy Communion.

8.45AM Parish Breakfast in Church.

10.00AM Sung Eucharist.

10.00AM Sunday school.

Monday 18

9.30-11.30AM Rhymes and Signs.

Tuesday 19 *Alphege*

12.00NOON Little Fishes

7.30PM Didcot Choral Society rehearsal.

Wednesday 20

7.30PM Didcot Community Gospel Choir rehearsal.

Thursday 21 *Anselm*

9.30AM Healing Mass.

Friday 22

6.45PM Choir Practice.

Saturday 23

10.00AM Presentation to DDO & PCC.

7.30PM Didcot Community Gospel Choir concert.

Sunday 24 Fifth Sunday of Easter

8.00AM Book of Common Prayer Holy Communion.

8.45AM Parish Breakfast in Church.

10.00AM Sung Eucharist.

Monday 25

9.30-11.30AM Rhymes and Signs.

Tuesday 26

12.00NOON Little Fishes.

2.30PM St John's Guild

7.30PM Didcot Choral Society rehearsal.

Thursday 28

9.30AM Said Mass

Friday 29

6.45PM Choir practice.



Priest-in-Charge

The Revd. Hannah Reynolds
The Vicarage,
47A Newlands Avenue, Didcot
01235 812114

Email:
priest-in-charge@stpeters-didcot.org.uk

Church Wardens



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01235 811465



Derek Smith
01235 811862