



Please pray this week for:

For our Easter services & events

- for people to find their way to our Easter services, online and in church. For good engagement with the 'In search of Easter' trail over the Easter weekend
- for all of us at St. Mary's that the Holy Spirit would bring us peace, assurance and joy in the risen Lord Jesus.

Annual Meeting for preparations for the meeting on Mon 19 April, especially for those willing to serve on the PCC.

Prayers for people

- for Jane Helliwell.
- for Lesley Waller home from hospital, on reduced meds which should settle things down.
- for the bereaved relatives of Dorothy Redman as they prepare for her funeral on 16th April.
- for Peter, JoJo & family after Peter's mother's recent funeral.

St. Mary's Prayer Chain

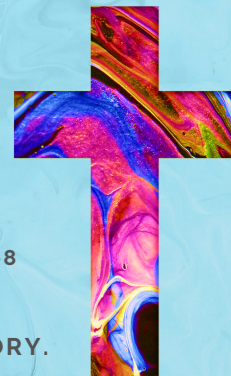
To add prayer requests - contact any of the following:

Peter Ackroyd 768391;
Phillip Young 401462;
Ivy Peacock 303216;
Diane Murray 585540,
Peter & Angela Stephens 765403;
Derrick & Marion Lowe 855288.

... HE APPEARED TO CEPHAS,
AND THEN TO THE TWELVE.
AFTER THAT HE APPEARED TO
MORE THAN FIVE HUNDRED
... THEN HE APPEARED TO JAMES,
AND THEN TO ALL THE APOSTLES,
AND LAST OF ALL HE APPEARED TO ME,
AS TO ONE ABNORMALLY BORN.

1 CORINTHIANS 15:5-8

WHEN CHRIST, WHO IS YOUR LIFE, APPEARS,
THEN YOU ALSO WILL APPEAR WITH HIM IN GLORY.
COLOSSIANS 3:4



**EASTER CHANGES
EVERYTHING**

Our world is in need of hope. Pessimism about the future was on the rise long before the pandemic. And though vaccines will make life more safe, they won't remove the long-term causes of pessimism. It's easy to list a few: climate change; sexual abuse revelations; racial injustice; economic inequality; political polarization; global instability; and a social media climate that amplifies every argument and cranks up fury.

Easter is the great hope. For all our ills. It's a big claim, of course. But when we realise it's not a fabrication, the resurrection brings the hope we need.

There's no shortage of evidence. The evidence of the empty tomb and the many 'appearings' of Jesus is convincing, as countless authors have concluded. But it's one thing to know Jesus rose. Another to grasp the significance.

Happily, the Bible does not abandon us to figure it out on our own. Here - in this verse from Colossians - is one example. Jesus is destined to appear again, in the same resurrection body which Cephas and James and Paul saw, that first Easter. And Christians from every era will appear with him in glory, because his life is ours. By faith, he is our life.

God has a plan for our damaged, hurting world. It began when Jesus rose from the dead - the first instalment of a renewed world. In the light and power of that new creation, anticipating that future in our work, relationships, conduct, attitudes and ambitions, believers can live lives of hope. When we remember his appearings.

With warm Easter greetings

Peter

St. Mary's News

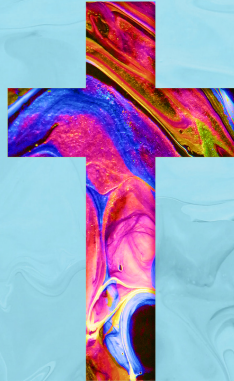
Easter at St. Mary's

'Four Views of the Cross' These wonderfully encouraging reflections are still available on our YouTube channel.

Open Church - midday to 1pm daily (Today & Good Friday)

Good Friday to Easter Day

In Search of Easter - churchyard trail for families 9am-5pm. With activities & QR codes to bring the story to life. Come when you can!



Good Friday (2 April)

10am All Age Service (church)

Easter Day (4 April)

6am Sunrise Service (Hall End)
From 6am Easter Day online service
10am Easter Communion with young people's group (church)

**EASTER CHANGES
EVERYTHING**

Annual Church Meeting - Monday 19 April

7.30pm on Zoom. The Annual Meeting is for anyone who is on the church Electoral Roll. We will be electing church wardens and PCC members. Please prayerfully consider whether you could serve, and speak to Peter, a churchwarden or PCC members about what's involved. Nomination forms and the **Annual Report booklet** can be found [here](#). Also on our website.

Installing Broadband into Church

The PCC have agreed to proceed with installing Broadband. This will allow us to live stream our services, so those who are unable to attend church can watch the actual Sunday morning service live from home. To do this we need a phone line in church. We have agreed with BT that a phone line can be installed from an existing phone pole outside 42 Church Road, at high level across the Churchyard to be fixed high up on the East end of the Church, and enter through the Clergy vestry. Full details are available from Hazel Sanders. The Diocese require that we ask if anyone has any comments or concerns about these works before they will grant permission. If you do have any comments or concerns could you please raise them with one of the Wardens or Vicar before 8 April, Thank you.

Next week: 6th to 9th April is [Word Alive](#) online,

Sponsor Richard Hart

Richard is running the London Royal Parks half marathon on 11 Apr (in Bedford) for Guys and St. Thomas's hospitals hoping to raise £20k (he's already at £15-16k) and would love it if you felt able to sponsor him to help reach the target!
www.JustGiving.com/fundraising/transplant2020

Services & events

Mon 29 Mar - Fri 2 Apr

- From 6am 'Four Views of the Cross' (YouTube)
- Midday to 1pm Church open for private prayer

Good Friday (2 April)

- 10am All Age service (Church)

Good Friday - Easter Sunday

- 9am-5pm 'In Search of Easter'

Easter Day (4 April)

- 6am Sunrise Service (Hall End Rd)
- From 6am Easter Day Service (YouTube)
- 10am Easter Communion (Church)
- 11.30am Zoom Coffee

Sun 11 April

- From 6am Sunday Service (YouTube)
- 10am Sunday Service (Church)
- 11.30am Zoom Coffee
- 7.15pm Prayer Gathering

Online Links

YouTube services

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLIOsYfZKLADo1u-Lyd089V5Li62Mz-KKK>

Sermon by phone: 01234 866195

Zoom Coffee (4 & 11 Apr 11.30am)

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88965219015?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88965219015?pwd=ZUF1RjUreTh5UStPVm1RcmpsTzkwUT09)
[pwd=ZUF1RjUreTh5UStPVm1RcmpsTzkwUT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88965219015?pwd=ZUF1RjUreTh5UStPVm1RcmpsTzkwUT09)

Meeting ID: 889 6521 9015
Passcode: 031033

Prayer Gathering (11 Apr 7.15pm)

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87027408382?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87027408382?pwd=L1JUaVJLVkZYUlpMRIIDYzBqWVY3UT09)
[pwd=L1JUaVJLVkZYUlpMRIIDYzBqWVY3UT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87027408382?pwd=L1JUaVJLVkZYUlpMRIIDYzBqWVY3UT09)

Meeting ID: 870 2740 8382
Password: 087588

10am Booking for Sunday Services at St. Mary's

Book on our website or by responding to the weekly email invitation, or call 01234 768391.