

**12<sup>th</sup> April 2020**  
**Easter Day**

**The 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.

**Shorter Collect:**

God of glory, by the raising of your Son you have broken the chains of death and hell: fill your Church with faith and hope; for a new day has dawned and the way to life stands open in our Saviour Jesus Christ.

**The Readings:**

**Old Testament: Jeremiah 31:1-6**

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.'

**New Testament: Acts 10.34-43**

Then Peter began to speak to them: '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.'

**New Testament: Colossians 3:1-4**

So 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.

**Gospel: John 20.1-18**

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 round 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.

### **Gospel: Matthew 28.1-10**

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 Prayer**

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.

### **Next Week's Readings:**

Acts 2.14a,22-32, 1 Peter 1.3-9,  
John 20.19-31

### **For your prayers**

*Keep us, good Lord,  
under the shadow of your mercy  
in this time of uncertainty and distress.  
Sustain and support the anxious and  
fearful, and lift up all who are brought low;  
that we may rejoice in your comfort  
knowing that nothing can separate us from  
your love in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.*

That our risen Saviour may fill us with the joy of his glorious and life-giving resurrection.

That isolated and persecuted churches may find fresh strength in the good news of Easter.

Our communities – that we would find new ways to care for each other in this time of need.

Our families – that we would be able to support each other and discover the gifts in one another.

Those in government – for wise decision making and good leadership.

All who are affected by coronavirus, through illness or isolation or anxiety - that they may find relief and recovery.

*#LiveLent daily readings and actions for Lent  
on your phone or computer*

All those working in our health services – for safety, courage, perseverance and insight, that many may be restored to health through their skill.

The vulnerable and the fearful, for the gravely ill and the dying - that they may know the comfort and peace of our risen Lord.

We continue to pray for our Team, this week for those who live in The Burycroft, Culham and The Close, Stadhampton.

And staff, pupils and parents at Marsh Baldon School.

Those who have died, including Ann Hendry of Newington, Anthony Collins of Berinsfield and baby Cariad Morgan of Dorchester.

*Heavenly Father, you have delivered us from the power of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of your Son: grant that, as his death has recalled us to life, so his continual presence in us may raise us to eternal joy; through Christ our Lord. Amen.*

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## Ways to worship

Check the **Dorchester Abbey** website for live streams. The Rector is offering short, reflective, morning prayers daily at 8.30am on Facebook.

<https://www.dorchester-abbey.org.uk/coronavirus-2/>

And for Revd Catherine's document "**10 Ways...**" which is also on this site.

**Check the A Church Near You website for your parish where we will also upload news and documents.**

### From the Bishop of Oxford:

We will provide [a single diocesan live-streamed Eucharist each Sunday and on principal Holy Days](#). This will be offered by a range of different people who will be offering prayers and reflections.

Check the website for details

The Bishops are asking everyone across the whole diocese, every disciple of Christ, to **pause at 11 am each day** if your work permits and say Psalm 23 and the Lord's Prayer. These can be found on your Church Near You page.

The Parish and Team Office will remain contactable through 01865 340007 for general queries. Office staff will be answering emails. Please be aware that because the office staff are working from home we are asking that no personal visits are made to number 8 Manor Farm Road.