

SERVICES NEXT WEEK

SUNDAY 4TH MAY

3RD OF EASTER

ABBEY – 8.00 AM HOLY COMMUNION (BCP)

CLIFTON HAMPDEN – 8.00 AM HOLY COMMUNION (BCP)

LONG WITTENHAM – 9:30 AM HOLY COMMUNION

STADHAMPTON – 9:30 AM FAMILY SERVICE

ABBEY – 10:30 AM SUNG EUCHARIST

MARSH BALDON – 10:30 AM HOLY COMMUNION

WARBOROUGH – 11.00 AM PARISH EUCHARIST

CULHAM – 11.00 AM HOLY COMMUNION

BERINSFIELD – 2.30 PM MESSY CHURCH

ABBEY – 3:00 PM FOREST CHURCH

DRAYTON ST LEONARD – 6:00PM HOLY COMMUNION

CLIFTON HAMPDEN – 7.00 PM FIRE PIT

A Service of Holy Communion is at St Mary's and St Berin Berinsfield every Wednesday at 9.30am. Everyone welcome.

HYMNS

Alleluia, alleluia hearts to heaven 194

Breathe on me breath of God 236

Alleluia, alleluia, give thanks 197

All hail the power of Jesu's name 223

NEXT WEEK'S BIBLE READINGS

Acts 9.1–6 [7–20]

Revelation 5.11–14

John 21.1–19

NOTICES

Village Coffee Morning in the Abbey

Tuesdays 11.00 am – 12 pm

Community Coffee Morning meets every Tuesday at Berinsfield Church Hall 10.30am-12pm. Open to everyone and will remain Dementia friendly.

Babies and Toddlers in the Abbey – every Wednesday 1:45pm – 3pm in the Shrine Chapel

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SUNDAY 27TH APRIL

2ND OF EASTER

Welcome to our services today, especially any who are visiting us or are new parishioners. Please make yourself known to the clergy or those on duty.

THE COLLECTS

Almighty Father, you have given your only Son to die for our sins and to rise again for our justification: grant us so to put away the leaven of malice and wickedness that we may always serve you in pureness of living and truth; through the merits of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Amen

Risen Christ, for whom no door is locked, no entrance barred: open the doors of our hearts, that we may seek the good of others and walk the joyful road of sacrifice and peace, to the praise of God the Father.

Amen

BIBLE READINGS

Acts 5.27–32

When they had brought them, they had them stand before the council. The high priest questioned them, ²⁸saying, 'We gave you strict orders not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and you are determined to bring this man's blood on us.' ²⁹But Peter and the apostles answered, 'We must obey God rather than any human authority. ³⁰The God of our ancestors raised up Jesus, whom you had killed by hanging him on a tree. ³¹God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Saviour, so that he might give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. ³²And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey him.'

Revelation 1.4–8

John to the seven churches that are in Asia: Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, ⁵and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth. To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood, ⁶and made us to be a kingdom, priests

serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.

⁷Look! He is coming with the clouds; every eye will see him, even those who pierced him; and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail. So it is to be. Amen.

⁸'I am the Alpha and the Omega', says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

John 20.19–31

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.' ²⁰After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹Jesus said to them again, 'Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.' ²²When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, 'Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.' ²⁴But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵So the other disciples told him, 'We have seen the Lord.' But he said to them, 'Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.' ²⁶A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.' ²⁷Then he said to Thomas, 'Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.' ²⁸Thomas answered him, 'My Lord and my God!' ²⁹Jesus said to him, 'Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.' ³⁰Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. ³¹But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

THE POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Lord God our Father, through our Saviour Jesus Christ you have assured your children of eternal life and in baptism have made us one with him: deliver us from the death of sin and raise us to new life in your love, in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, by the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Amen.

FOR YOUR PRAYERS:

Everlasting God, as Jesus appeared to show his disciples the beginning of a new world, draw us closer so that we, like Thomas, can examine the wounded hands and feet of Jesus in order to know and understand the depth of his love for us. Let us approach the throne of God in confidence as we pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus.

Gracious God, look down with love upon our Church as day by day we strive to be a body worthy of Jesus' name, an Easter People whose song is Alleluia. Be with the Clergy and Wardens as they focus on spreading the Good News as we give thanks for the Resurrection of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

Creator God, we raise before you our world, especially praying for peace, reconciliation and healing in all places of war, hatred and terrorism. We pray that the nations of this world may be united in the Risen Christ, through whom and for whom all things were created.

Loving God, your Son remained with his disciples after his resurrection, teaching them to love all their neighbours as themselves. Be with our friends, families and neighbours this Eastertide and be with us as we hold them in our thoughts and prayers.

Almighty God, we pray for all who are sick and for all who are in hospital that they may be aware that the Lord is with them.

Loving God, surround all who mourn this day with your continuing compassion. Do not let grief overwhelm the bereaved, or turn them against you. When grief seems never-ending, take them one step at a time along the journey of death and resurrection. We pray especially for the Catholic community who mourn the death of Pope Francis. May they be comforted that you have called your servant home and he is with you in paradise.

Father God, you have called us to follow you. As you hear our prayers make us faithful in responding to your call.

Loving Lord, we pray that you bestow your blessing upon Georgina and Alex and Ellen and Alexander who are married this weekend. Guide them as they enter this new chapter of their lives and grant that their marriage be a source of joy and strength.

Merciful father, accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ. **Amen.**