

DIARY DATES / FUTURE PLANNED EVENTS

Event	Date and time	Venue
Church Mice Praise and Play for Babies and Pre-schooler and their Families.	Currently on Hold	St. John's Church
Lent Course.	Currently on Hold	Various
Lent Lunches.	Currently on Hold	Various
Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APM). Our Annual General meeting.	Currently on Hold	St. John's Church

YOUR GIVING TO ST. JOHN'S TO SUPPORT ITS MISSION IN OUR COMMUNITY

At St John's we are very grateful to all our congregation and visitors for their kind and generous donations to the church. These donations are crucial in ensuring we can continue to operate (we don't receive any funding from the diocese to cover the cost of running the church), and the suspension of services is likely to have a very significant impact on church finances. For those donors who do not already donate by way of monthly standing order or weekly envelopes you may wish to consider either setting up a standing order or making a one-off donation.

Cheques (payable to PCC St John's Lacey Green) can be posted to our Treasurer, Caroline Gulliver, at Waterside, Bledlow Road, Princes Risborough HP27 9NG or bank transfers / standing orders set up using the following details: Account Name: Parochial Church Council of St Johns Lacey Green Account No: 72102986 Sort Code: 40-24-17.

Weekly envelopes should continue to be filled each week and handed in all together once services are resumed. Pat Rushmere will shortly be arranging the distribution new packs of giving envelopes for the approaching tax year and she can provide them if new people would like to take advantage of this system. Thank you. *Canon Tony, The Churchwardens & The PCC*

Key Contacts:

Vicar:	Rev. Canon Tony Bundock	01844 347741
Team Rector:	Rev. David Williams	01844 346984
Licensed Lay Minister:	Mr. Graham King	01844 343910
Churchwardens:	Mrs Pat Rushmere	01844 345452
	Mrs Margaret Gray	01844 347094
PCC Secretary	Mr Mark Roberts	01296 437345

PARISH CHURCH OF ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST



Coming to Faith, Growing in Faith

Week Commencing
SUNDAY 19th APRIL 2020
2ND SUNDAY OF EASTER

FOCUS ON ... DOUBTING THOMAS

I tend to the view that Thomas the Apostle, "Doubting Thomas" as he became known, has had an unfair press. It just seems unfortunate for him, I think, that on the first occasion when Jesus appeared to his disciples in the Upper Room as their risen Lord Thomas happened not to be there. For all we know, if there were others of the disciples of Jesus who had not been there on that first Easter evening, they might well have been sceptical too. So, it does seem that the author of St. John's Gospel used the example of Thomas to assure his readers that it is natural to have doubts and questions.

Recognising Jesus, however, is in itself simply a beginning, not an end. When we recognise Jesus, when we see the Lord, he says to us, "Go and tell." In fact, tradition has it that St. Thomas was sent as far as India to proclaim the Gospel and there are Christians from Kerala, a state on the south-west coast of India, who claim that they trace the origins of their Church back to the evangelistic activity of St. Thomas and are known as "Saint Thomas Christians".

We too have a Gospel to proclaim, a faith to share, in what we say and the way we live our lives. We may not be called to follow the example of St. Thomas in travelling far and wide for the sake of the proclaiming the Gospel. But we are called to follow St. Thomas in proclaiming Jesus Christ as our Lord and our God; in our own particularly and personal way called to be witnesses to the risen Lord and the joy of new life in him.

And the message we delight to share with others is the Good News of the joy of Easter which resounds around the universe. Alleluia! Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Tony Bundock

COLLECT FOR 2ND SUNDAY OF EASTER AND THE FOLLOWING WEEK

Prayer Notes

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*.

READINGS FOR 2ND SUNDAY OF EASTER

Acts Ch. 2 V. 14a & VV. 22 – 32
1 Peter Ch. 1 VV. 3 – 9

John Ch. 20 VV. 19 – 31



PRAYER CHAIN PRAYER FOR THIS WEEK

Lord of all hopefulness,

Thank you for the blessing of hope in these troubled times. Help us to use our faith to strengthen the love shown to others in our community and beyond. Let that eternal love bond and unite everyone around the world in compassion. May the sacrifice that our Lord Jesus Christ made for us be a guiding light of hope to nurture our thoughts, words and deeds. Through Jesus Christ our risen Lord. Amen

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all evermore. Amen.



- We pray for all parts of the world affected by the Coronavirus (Covid-19), those who are ill with the virus and the souls of those who have died. We pray for those working in the NHS and Social Services who are working with the sick, the elderly and the disabled.
- We pray for those in our parish who are isolating themselves due to age or infirmity and those supporting them.
- For those in the parish and further afield who are sick or in need that they receive peace and healing, including: Irene Foord, Mary Mines, Helena Oecken, Ian Wilson, Ron Goodearl, Phillipa King, Reverend Rob Brown and Barnaby Woods.
- For the recently departed, particularly for Ruth Barclay. May their souls rest in peace. We pray for Jo Niven and her family at this difficult time.
- For Peace and Resolution for the peoples of those countries where there is conflict or tension including countries in the Middle East, Ukraine, Nigeria, Venezuela, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Sri Lanka and Hong Kong.
- For Comfort and mercy for the peoples of those countries, where there have been natural disasters, and for the aid agencies bringing relief.
- For our Government and Parliament at this time of uncertainty, that that MP's of all parties will come together in the National Interest.
- For migrants that they may receive justice and mercy.
- Safety for Christians and peoples of all faiths in danger that there may be a spirit of peace and understanding.
- For our mission and ministry in this community.
- For our Linked Parish of St. Mary's Kuruman.
- Thanks for our church community and our shared faith
- Thanks for all who help, in any way, in our Church.
- For our successful fundraising events this year.

CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19)

The Church of England guidance remains the same the church building being closed to Sunday worship. Although our usual pattern of Sunday Services and mid-week gatherings must be put on hold, this does not mean that the Church of England has shut up shop. Being a part of the Church of England is going to look very different in the days ahead. At least for the time being, our life is going to be less characterised by attendance at Church on Sunday, and more characterised by the prayer and service we offer each day. We may not be able to pray for people in the ways that we are used to, but we can certainly pray for people. And we can certainly offer practical care and support.

Keep safe and please continue to pray for one another at this time.

Canon Tony, The Churchwardens & The PCC