

NOTICES / DIARY DATES

Event	Date and time	Venue
Team Bereavement "Drop In"	2 nd Mon of the Month (3:00 to 4:00 pm)	St. Mary's Church, Princes Risborough
Team "Tea for All" for anyone who is feeling lonely and wants to drop in for tea, cake and a chat.	Last Sunday of the Month (2:30 to 4:30 pm)	St. Mary's Church, Princes Risborough
Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM, after the 10:00 am Service)	Sunday 30 th April	St. John's Church
Team Morning Prayer	Wed. 26 th April (8:45 am)	St. Mary's Church, Princes Risborough
Ladies' Breakfast & Talk by Lizzie Thomas-Davies. To attend, please contact Rose Williams on 01844 274225 / email on rosewilliams9p@yahoo.co.uk	Saturday 29 th April (09:00 to 10:30 am)	St. Mary's Church, Princes Risborough
PCC Standing Committee Meeting	Tuesday 2 nd May (7:30 pm)	-
Team Morning Prayer	Wed. 3 rd May (8:45 am)	St. Dunstan's, Monks Risborough
Team Morning Prayer	Wed. 10 th May (8:45 am)	St. John's Church
Team Morning Prayer	Wed. 17 th May (8:45 am)	Holy Trinity Church, Bledlow
Team Morning Prayer	Wed. 24 th May (8:45 am)	St. Mary's Church, Princes Risborough
Team Morning Prayer	Wed. 31 st May (8:45 am)	St. Peter's Church, Ilmer

ONE CAN TRUST

One Can Trust are trying to create bags that enable families to make a nutritious meal. Soup is not needed, but all donations for the food cupboard are welcome, including tinned meat, tinned fish, lentils, pasta, tinned tomatoes and cook-in sauces. We are being told that donations to the Trust have been down recently, but demand remains high. We have a donations box outside the Church Porch. Thank you.

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	01494 562140
	Mrs Margaret Gray	01844 347094
PCC Secretary & Pew Sheet editor:	Mr Mark Roberts	01296 437345
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www.stjohnschurchlaceygreen.co.uk

PARISH CHURCH OF ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST, LACEY GREEN



Coming to Faith, Growing in Faith

Week Commencing
SUNDAY 23RD APRIL 2023
3RD SUNDAY OF EASTER

WELCOME TO TODAY'S WORSHIP

You are warmly welcomed to St. John's Church, particularly if you are new to our congregation or are a visitor.

WORSHIP AT ST. JOHN'S

Wearing masks in church is now optional except for the Lady Chapel where we request that masks are still worn in this part of the Church. The Lady Chapel area will continue to be set aside as a mandatory social distancing area for those who feel they need to socially distance themselves from others. Please respect this. A bottle of sanitiser is available in the Chancel in front of the choir stalls for people to use prior to receiving Communion, if they wish. From Easter Sunday we have resumed sharing the Peace. From Whitsunday (Pentecost) on 28th May, we are proposing to re-introduce the Common Cup. For those who still wish to receive by Intinction, pre-intincted wafers will be available. We will generally be serving coffee after the 10:00 am Service on Sundays.

We have a card reader available, so we are able to take cashless offerings during services / donations. Linked to this we also have a QR code for members of the congregation to donate via their Smartphone, which can be used as of now. You will need a QR reader App to use this. Thank you for however you choose to make your offering.



Weekly Services:

SUNDAY

8:00 am	In-church Said BCP Communion Service (1 st & 3 rd Sun)
10:00 am	In-church Parish Communion Service with Hymns

TUESDAY

9:30 am	In-church Said Parish Communion Service
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FOCUS ON... THE ROAD TO EMMAUS

In our gospel reading this week, two disciples are walking from Jerusalem to Emmaus, a town some 7 miles from Jerusalem. These weren't Jesus's inner circle of disciples, but they knew him and were part of a wider group of followers. One, we know, was named Cleophas but the other is unnamed. Some commentators suggest that it was his wife. And it is interesting to reflect on the prominence of women in the early appearances of the risen Jesus. Why Cleophas and his co-disciple? We are not told but it is still Easter Sunday. Jesus has only just risen from the dead and appeared to the women in the Garden but had not yet appeared to his closest disciples. So, it is hardly surprising that our two travellers did not recognise him; we are told that sadness was written across their faces. As often is the case, Jesus asks simple questions to elicit and challenge the faith of his disciples. He asks what troubles them and they confess that they had hoped that the man they spoke of was the promised Messiah. But they were confused and didn't know what to think. Their faith was in turmoil when assaulted by worldly challenges. The response of Jesus, whom they still did not recognise, may seem rather harsh; "you foolish people. You find it so hard to believe all that the prophets wrote in the Scriptures". And he painstakingly "took them through the writings of Moses and all the other prophets". They had to understand that Jesus had to suffer, as foretold, before His true glory could be revealed. His testing of them continued as they neared their destination. Jesus feigned that he was travelling further but the disciples plead with him to stay the night. The Spirit was working within their hearts. And so Jesus is offered hospitality and the conditions for revelation had been fulfilled. As they sat down together to eat, he took the bread and blessed it and gave it to them. This was the most symbolic of acts, reminiscent of the Last Supper, a few days before and so "suddenly their eyes were opened and they recognised him". And then Jesus disappeared; his work in that place had been accomplished. Cleophas and his co-disciple realised that their faith had been restored; "didn't our hearts burn within us as he talked with us on the road and explained the scriptures". So yet again in our gospel narrative, it is in unlikely places and through unlikely people that the kingdom is revealed and advanced.

Graham King

COLLECT FOR 3RD SUNDAY OF EASTER

Almighty Father, who in your great mercy gladdened the disciples with the sight of the risen Lord: give us such knowledge of his presence with us, that we may be strengthened and sustained by his risen life and serve you continually in righteousness and truth; through Jesus Christ your Son 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 3RD SUNDAY OF EASTER

Acts Ch. 2 VV. 14a & VV 36 – 41

1 Peter Ch. 1 VV. 17 – 23

Luke Ch. 24 VV. 13 – 35

PRAYER CHAIN PRAYER



As we recall the encounter on the road to Emmaus, let us be open to Your presence in our lives and to seek to learn, reflect and respond to Your calling so that during the Easter season, we may grow closer to You and follow in Your footsteps wherever You lead us, Amen.

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

POST COMMUNION PRAYER FOR 3RD SUNDAY OF EASTER

Living God, your Son made himself known to his disciples in the breaking of bread: open the eyes of our faith, that we may see him in all his redeeming work; who is alive and reigns, now and for ever, Amen.

This Week you are Asked to Pray for:

- Those in the parish and further afield who are sick or in need that they receive peace and healing, including; Mary Mines, Ian Wilson, Lila King, Rita Probert, Rev. Nancy Wallace, Roger Hussey, Dick Field, Martin Moore, Helena Oecken, Kelly Safaris Silva, Marcus Barthropp, John Thomas-Davies, Frances Thomas-Davies, Richard Thomas-Davies, Jay Edmondson, David Lawrence and Martinus Vorster.
- The recently departed, may their souls rest in peace. We pray for their families and friends at this difficult time.
- We pray for our government, that they will lead wisely and fairly for all.
- We pray for countries where there have been natural disasters, for their peoples and for the various aid organisations bringing relief. We particularly pray at this time for the people of Turkey and Syria following the recent major earthquakes.
- We pray for Peace in the Ukraine. That there will be a rapid end to the fighting and the suffering for its People.
- We pray for our National Health Service, which is currently experiencing increased demand, and the Doctors, Nurses and Support Staff.
- All parts of the world affected by the Coronavirus (Covid-19), those who are ill with the virus and those caring for them.
- For the country of South Africa, for the people of Cape Town and Diocese of Kimberly and Kuruman including our linked parish of St. Mary's Kuruman.