

THIS WEEK'S SERVICES IN CHURCH AND ONLINE

The following services are available across the team - full details on the website and email bulletin.

SUNDAY 11TH APRIL

St Mary's Saffron Walden - in Church/YouTube/Zoom
10.00am Holy Communion President: John Sibson

St Botolph's Hadstock - in Church
9.30am Holy Communion 1662
President: Paula Griffiths

All Saints Ashdon - in Church
9.30am Holy Communion President: Caroline Curren

St Mary's Debden - in Church/Zoom
9.15am Sunday Praise Leader: John Saxon

CAM VILLAGES ONLINE

Wendens Ambo - Zoom
9.30am Holy Communion President: Angela Want
Great Chesterford - Facebook
11.00am Holy Communion President: John Risby

TUESDAY

5.00pm Evening Prayer Leader: Joe Hordern
Zoom

WEDNESDAY

9.30am Holy Communion President: Chris Bishop
Zoom

NEXT SUNDAY 18TH APRIL SERVICES IN CHURCH AND ONLINE

**St Mary's Saffron Walden
in Church**
10.00am Family Service Leader: Jeremy Trew
Talk: Tracey Nicholls

St Botolph's Hadstock - in Church
9.30am Holy Communion President: Paula Griffiths

All Saints Ashdon - in Church
9.30am Holy Communion President: Caroline Curren

All Saints' Wimbish - in Church/Zoom
9.15am Holy Communion President: Hilary Davey

See St Mary's Church, SW, website at
www.stmaryssaffronwalden.org to find out more.

Please 'Like' our Facebook page so we reach more people! Click on the link on our website, or go to:
www.facebook.com/saintmaryschurchsaffronwalden



SAFFRON WALDEN & VILLAGES TEAM MINISTRY

The Grapevine

COVERING THE PARISHES OF SAFFRON WALDEN,
WIMBISH, DEBDEN, ASHDON AND HADSTOCK

Welcome to our services today
Second Sunday of Easter
11th April 2021

Collect

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.

First Reading: Acts 4.32-35

The whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common. With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. There was not a needy person among them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold. They laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

Gospel: John 20.19-31

When it was evening on 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.' After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, 'Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.' When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, 'Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.' But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So 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.' A 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.' Then 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.' Thomas answered him, 'My Lord and my God!' Jesus said to him, 'Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.' Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But 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.

Post Communion

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.

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

In April please pray for: **St Mary's Church of England, St Mary's C of E Primary School**

The family and friends of those who have died recently:
Hilary Parry-Jones, Marion Green, Jean Harmer, David Keen

REFLECTIONS

"Peace be with you". The greeting of the risen Lord is one of Peace. His word is one of calmness, of reassurance and of wellbeing. Calmness because now that he is risen, the Lord brings an end to fear and an end to dejection, an end to feelings of loss and hopelessness. In a world where we are often battered by the storms of life, the peace of the risen Lord brings calmness. It gives stillness even during the height of the storm. He gives refuge in tempest and a haven in the hustle and bustle. There is no need to panic. There is calmness. For the Easter greeting of the risen Lord is one of peace.

His greeting is also one of reassurance. For the disciples the crucifixion was the end of Jesus and might have been the end for them as well. Instead of triumph there had been disaster. Yet the Easter greeting of peace showed the disciples that the Lord was risen. It was a powerful demonstration that the last word was not with death but with God. It was an audible and visible means of showing that God's purposes will not be thwarted, that goodness reigns and that death is conquered by the God of life,

The risen Lord's greeting is one of wellbeing too. God is in charge and because we are on his side we have nothing to fear. The Easter message remains true for us too. The words of the risen Lord are spoken to each one of us, "Peace be with you". The incredible has happened. Christ has been raised by God. Our feelings of fear, dismay and alarm are changed to courage. Doubt turns to trust. Hopelessness is transformed to a new hope. Sorrow gives way to joy." Peace be with you" Alleluia Christ is risen, he is risen indeed. Let's tell everyone!

Michael Lovegrove

PRAYER FOR THIS WEEK

O God, whose will is our peace, help us to want for ourselves the things you want us to have; help us to love your programme for living; help us to welcome your orders for the day; for when these prayers are answered our heart will find its home; through Jesus Christ our lord. Amen. (Dick Williams)

BIBLE READINGS FOR THIS WEEK

Mon 12th	Morning Psalm 19 & John 20:1-10 Evening Psalm 139
Tue 13th	Morning Psalm 8 & John 20:11-18 Evening Psalm 104 & Colossians 1:15-end
Wed 14th	Morning Psalm 30 & John 20:19-end Evening Psalm 33
Thurs 15th	Morning Psalm 28 & John 21:1-14 Evening Psalm 34
Fri 16th	Morning Psalm 61 & John 21:15-19 Evening Psalm 118
Sat 17th	Morning Psalm 84 & John 21:20-end Evening Psalm 66

NEWS

SERVICES IN CHURCH Services are taking place in all our churches this week. Numbers are restricted to be COVID safe. If you wish to attend St Mary's SW in person, please book your place in advance by telephoning the Parish Office by noon on Friday or by booking online using the bulletin link.

SERVICES AVAILABLE ONLINE are listed on the back page and in the weekly bulletin. Zoom services can be accessed by telephone - please contact the Parish Office for further details.

PRIVATE PRAYER St Mary's, Saffron Walden is open on Sunday and Wednesday afternoons from 2pm - 4pm. Ashdon is open every day and Hadstock is open by appointment.

ANNUAL MEETINGS MIDDAY 25TH APRIL This year's Annual Meetings will be held on Zoom. Nomination Forms can be downloaded from St Mary's website, or requested from the Parish Office, showing the formal requirements for nominees to fill three casual vacancies on the Deanery Synod for two years, two churchwardens and four assistant churchwardens for St Mary's for one year and six standard vacancies for members of the PCC for three years (www.stmaryssaffronwalden.org/annualmeetings). Scanned nomination forms may be submitted by email to the PCC secretary at pcc@stmaryssaffronwalden.org or posted through the Parish Office letter box or handed to a churchwarden or sidesman. Completed forms should include the names of the proposer, and seconder, and must be signed. You don't all need to sign the same form as long as it is clear who you are nominating. If you wish to find out more of what being on these bodies involves, please contact me, the churchwardens or any of the existing members. I would be very grateful if nominations could be sent to me by **SUNDAY 11th April**. *Lisa Brook*

ANNUAL MEETINGS - 25TH APRIL PAPERS The agenda and papers, including the Annual Review and financial statement, for the annual meetings, which will be held at midday using the same Zoom details as for the main Sunday service on 25th April, are available from the following link: www.stmaryssaffronwalden.org/annualmeetings If you would like printed copies of the papers, please contact the Parish Administrator by telephone or email by 10am on 19th April so that they can be posted to you to arrive before the meeting. *Lisa Brook*

PARISH OFFICE The Parish Administrator is away, but 'phone and emails will be monitored for urgent issues (week 12th - 16th April).

Please send items for the **GRAPEVINE** to secretary.swrectory@ntlworld.com by 9.00am on Wednesday.

MINISTRY TEAM

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Revd Paula Griffiths	01799 599141
Revd Alex Jeewan	01799 531153
Revd John Saxon	01799 541619
Revd Dr Caroline Curren	01799 584839