

A Prayer for this Easter week

We praise and bless you, our risen Lord Jesus, for you breathed new life into your astonished disciples.

As you turned unutterable grief into unshakeable joy, so renew and refresh your turbulent world and establish your reign of peace.

To you, Lord Jesus, transforming the pain of death into the fullness of life, be honour and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

In need of Help?

If you need help, a listening ear, or have a prayer request contact clergy on the numbers below or leave a message on the Benefice Office phone, 01635 41249, where messages will be picked up.

The Clergy team will be praying for people on our church databases each day.

Prayer Flowers for the Easter Garden

Visit the Benefice website after Sunday to see the garden full of Prayer Flowers.

West Berkshire Community Hub

The Community Hub is a vital resource for both volunteers and those who need help at this time. info.westberks.gov.uk/coronavirus-communityhub
Telephone – 01635 503579

Key Contacts

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Placement Curate

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Churchwardens:

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Facebook facebook.com/stjohnnewbury
[facebook.com/ @ StGeorgesNewbury](https://facebook.com/@StGeorgesNewbury)



Newbury, St George & St John

Easter Sunday
12th April 2020

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

He is risen indeed. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

'I am the first and the last, says the Lord, and the living one; I was dead, and behold I am alive for evermore.'

Grace, mercy and peace to you all on this Easter Day.

Online Easter Day Benefice Service, Sunday at 10am

Please join us for our Benefice Communion Service, streamed through the internet.

The service will be available on You Tube here:

<http://tiny.cc/stg-stj>

Or go to the new benefice website and click the link www.stgeorge-stjohn-newbury.org.uk

'Virtual Coffee and Chat' at 11am. Details on Website.

For your Prayers

Prayers for named individuals are now listed in a Prayer List circulated weekly by email. Please be assured that people will still be prayed for by name.

This week in the Newbury Deanery prayer cycle we are being prayed for! St George and St John – for our clergy, church officers, and the life of our two parishes at this difficult time.

We continue to pray for the sick and their loved ones and for the bereaved.

And at this time of Coronavirus, we pray for:

All doctors, nurses, carers, healthcare workers and support staff.

Emergency services and civic services.

For local businesses, the self-employed, and people facing financial uncertainty.

For those who are struggling mentally and emotionally.

For the government and all who have to make far-reaching decisions.

The Clergy team will be praying for people on our church databases each day.

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Readings for Easter Sunday 12th April 2020

The 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.

First Reading. 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.'

Gospel Reading 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 toward 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 around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you looking for?" 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.

Post Communion

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.

Upcoming Services

Sunday Worship 19th April YouTube 10.00am

This week is known a 'Low Week.' Services quieten down after the Easter build-up. Clergy have a chance to rest. May you all find moments to rest in the time we have.

Services recorded from Holy Week, (not Zoom services) remain available from the benefice website and on YouTube.

Benefice Website – stgeorge-stjohn-newbury.org.uk

The website is being updated on a regular basis. It also keeps the **Online Services** – so you can catch-up if you missed them.

Updates also given on the two **Facebook** pages for St George's and St John's