



The Ross Parishes

rossparishes.uk

Ross-on-Wye

Walford

Brampton Abbotts

# Newsletter

**Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> April**

Second Sunday of Easter

*A very warm welcome to  
worship in the benefice today*



*growing inclusive, intergenerational churches that inspire faith, hope and love*

## Today's services

**Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> April**

**8.00am** Said Communion, St Mary's

**9.30am** Sung Eucharist, St Mary's

**9.30am** Morning Prayer, Walford

## Music for today's Services

**9.30am Sung Eucharist, St Mary's**

*(The choir is on holiday today)*

**Entry:** 201 Come, ye faithful, raise the strain

**Gradual:** 209 Love's redeeming work is done

**Offertory:** 194 Alleluia! Hearts to heaven

**Post Communion:** 217 The strife is o'er

**9.30am Morning Prayer, Walford**

667 The strife is o'er the battle done

8 Alleluia, alleluia give thank

12 Alleluia sing to Jesus

305 Lord of the dance

## Prayer & readings for today

**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. **Amen.**

**First Reading:** *Reader: A reading from The Acts of the Apostles*

But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them: 'You that are Israelites, listen to what I have to say: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with deeds of power, wonders, and signs that God did through him among you, as you yourselves know—this man, handed over to you according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of those outside the law. But God raised him up, having freed him from death, because it was impossible for him to be held in its power. For David says concerning him, "I saw the Lord always before me, for he is at my right hand so that I will not be shaken; therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced; moreover, my flesh will live in hope. For you will not abandon my soul to Hades, or let your Holy One experience

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corruption. You have made known to me the ways of life; you will make me full of gladness with your presence.”

‘Fellow Israelites, I may say to you confidently of our ancestor David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. Since he was a prophet, he knew that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would put one of his descendants on his throne. Foreseeing this, David spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah, saying, “He was not abandoned to Hades, nor did his flesh experience corruption.” This Jesus God raised up, and of that all of us are witnesses.

[Acts 2:14a, 22-32]

*Reader:* This is the word of the Lord. *All:* **Thanks be to God.**

**Gospel Reading:** 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.’ 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.

[John 20:19-end]

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## *For our prayers*

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### **Those whose banns are to be read today:**

Darren and Janice (first reading), St Mary’s; Henry and Nicole (third reading), Walford.

### **Those who are ill:**

Stuart Robinson, David Walshaw, Victor Downing, Dene Eward, Rene Keogh, Terry Harding, Rosie Taylor, and all who are living with long term illnesses or health problems.

### **Those who mourn,** and those who have died, among them:

Susan Marshall, Keith Richards, and Melanie Robinson.

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## News from the Ross Parishes

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**Goodbye Rachael** - We are sad to report that Rachael Daniel has decided to move on after just over two years and that tomorrow (Monday 13th April) will be her last day in the office as our Administrator. Rachael has been a splendid, efficient colleague who has seen us smoothly through the last vacancy, and we will miss her. We wish her well for the future. News of how the gap she leaves behind is filled will follow, Catherine will still be found in the office on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays.

**Keith Richards** Eileen, Anne and Andrew would like to thank everyone for their sympathy, support and good wishes over recent weeks. Keith's funeral will be at St Mary's Church at 12.30pm on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> April, followed by cremation at the Forest of Dean Crematorium at 2.00pm. All are welcome to attend either or both and afterwards at the Speech House Hotel.

**Connect, St Mary's weekly young people's club** would like to thank everyone who came and supported their Dragon Talent Show. They raised nearly £170 as part of St Mary's Lent Challenge. Congratulations to them all for putting on such a wonderful afternoon's entertainment.

**Alpha Course** The Alpha Course, running at St Mary's for 10 weeks, starts at 6.00pm on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> April. Alpha is for those who are curious about faith, allowing time to connect and eat together before discussing and exploring big questions of life, faith and purpose. More information from Emily: [emily@rossparishes.uk](mailto:emily@rossparishes.uk).

**Ascension Day** This year, Ascension Day falls on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> May. There will be a said Communion service in St Mary's at 10.00am, and the main Benefice Eucharist, a sung service led by the choir, will be held in St Michael's, Walford, at 7.00pm. It will be followed by refreshments. Everyone is welcome.

**Easter Flowers** Thank you to everyone who made a contribution towards the lilies for St Mary's Church this Easter. Sue Jones.

**Barnfest** is a local Christian weekend gathering in Gorsley at the end of June. Now in its fourth year, it has grown dramatically, now including Friday as a youth and young adults evening, great food, times of praise and worship and great seminars and talks from well-loved and known church leaders and evangelists. This is a great opportunity to invite friends who don't go to church or are searching for hope and answers in Christianity, or simply to bring your family and treat it as a retreat weekend! Barnfest is held on a local farm in Gorsley where there is plenty of room to camp, should you find it too far to travel in each day. So don't worry - you won't miss out! See <https://www.barnfest.uk/> for more information.

**Walford Garden Fete**, 6<sup>th</sup> June. Hopefully everyone has this date in their diaries. It promises to be a fun-packed day in the beautiful garden at The Homme, Hom Green. There will be plenty of activities for both young and old, food and drink and fresh local produce. If you have any surplus china, we would welcome it for the Vintage China Stall; it can be left at Walford Church or we can collect it. If anyone has an hour or two to spare to help us on the day, we would love to hear from you! Contact Sanna Drummond on 07968 514616.

**Ross in Bloom** Our *It's Your Neighbourhood (IYN)* application for Heart of England in Bloom has been accepted for the Railway Garden! Our judge has been in touch and suggested a visit in

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July, and there is plenty to do before then. If you want to join in, let Colin know on 01989 564536.

**Mystery Parcel Stall** Pauline Leggate is running this stall for the fete in August. She will welcome anything you can contribute that is worth at least £1.00, particularly gifts suitable for men and children, of which there is usually a shortage. Please let Pauline have all your gifts unwrapped. With thanks in advance.

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## *This week in the Ross Parishes*

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<b>Every day</b>	9.00am Morning Prayer by Zoom, <a href="http://rossparishes.uk/morning-prayer">rossparishes.uk/morning-prayer</a>
<b>Mon 13<sup>th</sup> Apr</b>	10.00am Tots in Tune, St Mary's Hall 9.00pm Compline, St Mary's
<b>Tue 14<sup>th</sup> Apr</b>	9.00am Community Larder and Tea & Toast, St Mary's Hall 12.30pm Funeral service for Keith Richards, St Mary's
<b>Wed 15<sup>th</sup> Apr</b>	8.45am Toast and Toddle, St Mary's 11.00am Ponder and Pray via Zoom 1.00pm Talk: Myths of Nelson's Navy by Herbie Renfield, St Mary's 4.00pm Connect Club and Youth Choir rehearsal, St Mary's Hall and St Mary's 9.00pm Compline, St Mary's
<b>Thu 16<sup>th</sup> Apr</b>	10.00am Said Communion, St Mary's
<b>Fri 17<sup>th</sup> Apr</b>	9.30am Paddle and Praise, Walford (private home) <a href="mailto:wendy@rossparishes.uk">wendy@rossparishes.uk</a> 6.00pm Dice and Decks, St Mary's Hall

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## *Further ahead*

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<b>Sat 18<sup>th</sup> Apr</b>	7.30pm Monmouth Big Band Concert and Dance, St Mary's
<b>Sun 19<sup>th</sup> Apr</b>	6.00pm Diocesan Anniversary Evensong, Leominster Priory
<b>Tue 21<sup>st</sup> Apr</b>	6.00pm Alpha Course, Session 1, St Mary's
<b>Thu 23<sup>rd</sup> Apr</b>	11.00am-4.00pm, Kate Bliss Valuation Day, St Mary's
<b>Sat 25<sup>th</sup> Apr</b>	7.00pm Hereford Police Choir Concert, St Mary's
<b>Sun 26<sup>th</sup> Apr</b>	4.00pm Come, Sing & Sup rehearsal 6.00pm Come, Sing & Sup evensong
<b>Thu 14<sup>th</sup> May</b>	7.00pm Festal Eucharist for Ascension Day, St Michael's, Walford
<b>10<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup> May</b>	Christian Aid Week

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## *Contacts*

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