



Cowes Group Ministry
All Saints' Gurnard with St Faith's,
Holy Trinity Cowes, St John the Baptist
Northwood and St Mary the Virgin Cowes.



Sunday 12th April 2026, Second Sunday of Easter.

Welcome to our benefice! If you are visiting one of our churches for the first time, please introduce yourself to us!

Collect for Today

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.**

Old Testament Reading from Exodus 14:10-31 (NRSV)

As Pharaoh drew near, the Israelites looked back, and there were the Egyptians advancing on them. In great fear the Israelites cried out to the Lord. They said to Moses, 'Was it because there were no graves in Egypt that you have taken us away to die in the wilderness? What have you done to us, bringing us out of Egypt? Is this not the very thing we told you in Egypt, "Let us alone and let us serve the Egyptians"? For it would have been better for us to serve the Egyptians than to die in the wilderness.' But Moses said to the people, 'Do not be afraid, stand firm, and see the deliverance that the Lord will accomplish for you today; for the Egyptians whom you see today you shall never see again. ¹⁴The Lord will fight for you, and you have only to keep still.'

Then the Lord said to Moses, 'Why do you cry out to me? Tell the Israelites to go forward. But you lift up your staff, and stretch out your hand over the sea and divide it, that the Israelites may go into the sea on dry ground. Then I will harden the hearts of the Egyptians so that they will go in after them; and so I will gain glory for myself over Pharaoh and all his army, his chariots, and his chariot drivers. ¹nd the Egyptians shall know that I am the Lord, when I have gained glory for myself over Pharaoh, his chariots, and his chariot drivers.'

The angel of God who was going before the Israelite army moved and went behind them; and the pillar of cloud moved from in front of them and took its place behind them. It came between the army of Egypt and the army of Israel. And so the cloud was there with the darkness, and it lit up the night; one did not come near the other all night.

Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea. The Lord drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night, and turned the sea into dry land; and the waters were divided. The Israelites went into the sea on dry ground, the

waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. The Egyptians pursued, and went into the sea after them, all of Pharaoh's horses, chariots, and chariot drivers. At the morning watch the Lord in the pillar of fire and cloud looked down upon the Egyptian army, and threw the Egyptian army into panic. He clogged their chariot wheels so that they turned with difficulty. The Egyptians said, 'Let us flee from the Israelites, for the Lord is fighting for them against Egypt.'

Then the Lord said to Moses, 'Stretch out your hand over the sea, so that the water may come back upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots and chariot drivers.' So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and at dawn the sea returned to its normal depth. As the Egyptians fled before it, the Lord tossed the Egyptians into the sea. The waters returned and covered the chariots and the chariot drivers, the entire army of Pharaoh that had followed them into the sea; not one of them remained. But the Israelites walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left.

Thus the Lord saved Israel that day from the Egyptians; and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore. Israel saw the great work that the Lord did against the Egyptians. So the people feared the Lord and believed in the Lord and in his servant Moses.

New Testament Reading from Acts 2:14a, 22-32 (NRSV)

Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd in Jerusalem: '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 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.'

Old Testament Reading from Psalm 16 (CW)

Preserve me, O God, for in you have I taken refuge; I have said to the Lord, 'You are my lord, all my good depends on you.' All my delight is upon the godly that are in the land, upon those who are noble in heart. Though the

idols are legion that many run after, their drink offerings of blood I will not offer, neither make mention of their names upon my lips.

The Lord himself is my portion and my cup; in your hands alone is my fortune. My share has fallen in a fair land; indeed, I have a goodly heritage. I will bless the Lord who has given me counsel, and in the night watches he instructs my heart. I have set the Lord always before me; he is at my right hand; I shall not fall.

Wherefore my heart is glad and my spirit rejoices; my flesh also shall rest secure. For you will not abandon my soul to Death, nor suffer your faithful one to see the Pit. You will show me the path of life; in your presence is the fullness of joy and in your right hand are pleasures for evermore.

Gospel reading from John 20:19-31 (NRSV)

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.

Post Communion Collect

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. **Amen.**

COWES GROUP MINISTRY'S PRAYER LIST (group 3)

We pray for Margaret M, Peter E, Peter S, Peter L, Pat R, Rachel T, Rosie L, Rosemary & John, Ruth C, Rachel & children, Sophie, Sophie, Terry G, Thelma, Vivienne, Amy & Wendy H.

CHURCH SERVICES HAPPENING THIS WEEK		
Sun 12 th	All Saints', Gurnard	Taste of Taizé - 17:00 shared Supper then 18:00 Taizé Service
Wed 15	St Mary's, Cowes	10:30 Holy Communion
Sun 19 th	All Saints', Gurnard	09:30 Celtic Holy Communion
	Holy Trinity, Cowes	09:30 Holy Communion
	St John's, Northwood	11:00 Morning Prayer BCP
	St Mary's, Cowes	11:00 Holy Communion then APCM

Contact Information

If you would like to contact any of our members of the Clergy or Church Wardens please email ParishOfficeiow@gmail.com or call 07472 358917.

TASTE OF TAIZÉ Supper and Services on the 2nd Sunday each month. You are welcome from 5pm for a simple, shared supper and/or for the Taizé service from 6-6:45pm; a gentle contemplative service of prayer, Taizé song and silence. All Welcome.

CLOUD TOTS, a playgroup for the under-5's. Mondays, 09:15-11:15 at All Saints' Gurnard. For more info email CowesGroupMinistry@outlook.com

BIBLE STUDY, on Tuesdays 14th and 21st, considering the question, "What is the Church?" looking at Scripture and Tradition. All welcome to come and join in or just sit and listen.

NORTHWOOD FELLOWSHIP FEAST on 26th April, names and numbers needed for catering so please don't leave it to the last minute.

EVENTS HAPPENING THIS WEEK	
Mon 13 th	09:15-11:15 Cloud Tots at All Saints' Gurnard. 10:00-12:00 St Mary's Garden Group. 14:00-16:00 Scrabble Club, All Saints' Garden Room. 14:00-16:00 Table Tennis at St Mary's Church Hall.
Tues 14 th	10:30-12:00 Bible Study at All Saints' Garden Room. 10:45 Northwood PCC Meeting in Church. 15:15 Julian Meeting in Gill's home.
Thurs 16 th	10:30 "I do enjoy my Thursday mornings" online quiz 14:00-16:00 Elephant Club in the Garden Room. 14:00-16:00 St Mary's Art and Crafts group restarts after the Easter break, all welcome to drop in.
Fri 17 th	19:00-21:00 'Blush' Fashion Show at All Saints' Church.

More details on the Cowes Group Ministry's April Events sheet. If you would like any information about any of our groups, clubs or events, please contact CowesGroupMinistry@outlook.com or call 07472 358917.