



**St John the Divine Church,
Selsdon
Sunday 11th April 2021
SECOND SUNDAY OF
EASTER**

Welcome

Welcome back to St John's it is so lovely to have the congregation back in the church. We hope that you enjoy today's service.

Today the service will be taken by Revd Prem from St Edwards Church,
New Addington

PLEASE TAKE THIS LEAFLET HOME WITH YOU

Opening Prayer

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**

Post Communion Prayer

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**

Psalm : 133

First Reading:

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles:

All the believers were united in heart and mind. And they felt that what they owned was not their own, so they shared everything they had. The apostles testified powerfully to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and God's great blessing was upon them all. There were no needy people among them, because those who owned land or houses would sell them and bring the money to the apostles to give to those in need. This is the Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Gospel

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 20:19-31

For your prayers:

We pray for God's love to surround:

Jonathan Aitken, Tano Grima, Margaret Rapp, Robin Sullivan

We pray for those who have died recently:

Peter Brice

We pray for loved ones on the anniversary of their death:

11th April	Kathleen Bottrill	(2010)
12th April	Florence Hardy	(1982)
13th April	Ian Stagg	(1970)
	Dawn Brown	(2009)
14th April	Richard Herriott	(1989)
15th April	Douglas Wright	(1982)
	Frank Dyer	(1983)
	Joseph Green	(1985)
17th April	Hildegard Willis	(2016)

If you'd like prayer either for yourself or for another, please email rectorstjohnschurch@gmail.com And if you would like to include the name of a loved one among the list of the departed on the anniversary of their death, please email Amanda on the above email.

*Please give NOTICES for inclusion in the weekly service sheet to Amanda bookingsstjohns@gmail.com preferably by e-mail, or in writing. It would be helpful to receive this before * Tuesday * each week.*

If you'd like to discuss arranging a baptism (christening), a wedding or a funeral, please call

Tel: 0208 6572343 or email rectorstjohnschurch@gmail.com

The Parish Office

Will be open Mon- Thur 9am -2pm

Tel: 0208 6

mobile number 07958 682103

email bookingsstjohns@gmail.com

St John's Website address is:

www.stjohnsselsdon.org.uk

To find our Facebook page simply (Google) search

St John the Divine Selsdon

Sunday Services at 10 am

Could we remind everyone of the following:

Coronavirus is highly infectious. Older people and those with underlying health problems are at increased risk of severe illness and potentially death. It is critical that we follow strict rules if we wish the church to remain open.

- 1 Everyone must wear a mask properly unless they have a compelling reason not to do so and must sanitise on entry to and departure from church**
- 2 Spacing is critical, please do not huddle together and please keep 2m apart unless you are in a bubble, sit on chairs which have a green square on them**
- 3 Leave church in a measured way, not in a scrum and do not stand at the back of the church talking to others**
- 4 Windows need to be open, as does the back door**

**THANK YOU FOR HELPING TO KEEP THE CHURCH OPEN AND
PROTECTING OUR CONGREGATION**

Thank you to all who made the church look wonderful for Easter Sunday, the flower ladies, the Jennings Family and all those who gave generously towards the Lilies.





Father Michael's Diary

"I'm going fishing" says Peter and so he and some of his friends go home to Galilee to their boats and their nets. And they go fishing just as they did every day until Jesus called them away from their nets to fish for people. And just

as many times before the fish weren't playing ball and they worked away all night and caught nothing. Depressed, defeated and dead tired they made for the shore but as they did so they could see in the distance that someone had lighted a fire. As they got closer, they could see who it was, and they were so amazed that they didn't dare speak.... it was their friend Jesus! They couldn't believe their eyes only a few days before they had had to watch him being executed, horribly and publicly, they had seen him die. With Jesus' death their dreams had died, their dreams of a new and better world, a world of justice peace and love. There had been nothing for it, they had had to back to old lives, saddened and disillusioned. But there was Jesus, cooking breakfast by the lakeside. Everything was changed – night became day, sadness joy, disillusionment fulfilment, despair hope. They had met the risen Jesus.

You could say much the same about the other encounters with the risen Jesus: the travellers on the Emmaus Road, the disciples in the upper room – they all have one thing in common, they all concern people going about their daily lives. The disciples who joined peter fishing were fishermen, it was what they did every day to earn a living, the travellers on the Emmaus road were going home after a day in the city, the disciples gathered in the upper room to share memories of Jesus. And it was there in the middle of their ordinary everyday lives, when they least expected it, that they met the risen Jesus.

So, if we want to meet the Risen Jesus where should we look? We should look for Jesus in our everyday workaday lives and we should look for him expecting to find him, for he is there to be found. Found in every act of self-sacrifice, of caring, of justice and above all of love. We should look for him among the homeless and in the queue at the food bank, among the asylum seekers and the refugees, in the hospital ward and the care home. In your neighbour and your fellow shoppers in the supermarket. Wherever we meet Jesus their sorrow can be turned to joy, despair into hope and hatred into love. But for that to happen two things are necessary, first that we should recognise Jesus and secondly that we should act in fellowship with him. If we do that, we can make resurrection a reality in all our lives.

READINGS AND PRAYERS

11 April – Second Sunday of Easter – John 20.19-31 – the upper room – that we may recognise the Risen Christ in our daily lives.

12 April – Monday – John 3.1-8 – Nicodemus- for rebirth in the Spirit

13 April – Tuesday – John 3.7-15 – the serpent in the wilderness - that we may know the gift of eternal life.

14 April – Wednesday - John 3. 16-21 – the light of the world – for the Muslim community at the start of Ramadan

15 April – Thursday – John 3.31-end – whoever believes in the Son has eternal life – for the gift of faith.

16 April – Friday – John 6.1-15 – the feeding of the five thousand – for the work of Christian Aid

17 April – Saturday – John 6.16-21 – the stilling of the storm – that we may know the peace of Christ in our hearts.

We will start to hold Thursday morning Eucharist services from

Thursday 15th April at 10am in the church.

People must still wear masks and sanitise hands when they enter the church and keep to social distancing rules.



Singing hymns and spiritual songs...

When I was a small choirboy, we used to refer to this Sunday of the church's year as Low Sunday. This may well have come about as a description in contrast to the "High Sunday" celebrations of the previous week. As kids we used to think that it was more to do with the fact that so many people had disappeared on holiday after Easter that the congregational turn-out was one of the lowest of the year! Last Sunday it was a delight that we were able to assemble a small group to sing at our service following an unexpected last-minute revision of government guidance on singing in worship effective as of Palm Sunday. Many thanks to those who kindly made themselves available. There is so much wonderful music we have missed sharing with you during the past year and we look forward to the long-awaited resumption of normal service in due course.

The Christmas and Easter seasons are richly blessed with many well-known carols and hymns which have grown in popularity in churches worldwide during the last 150 years. Some are less well-known as they are used for maybe only one Sunday in the year. Such is the case for the hymn known as "Ye sons and daughters of the King", written in Latin by the French Franciscan Friar Jean Tisserand (d. 1419) who worked in Paris, where he founded an Order for penitent women. He is also said to have written a worship service commemorating Franciscans martyred in Morocco in 1220. The hymn was translated into English by the Nineteenth century priest, scholar and hymn writer John Mason Neale, he being the largest single contributor of works to the New English Hymnal, our main hymn book here at St. John's. The tune we usually set the words to is "O filii et fillae", the melody of which was taken from a book of sacred hymn tunes dated 1683 in Paris.

In as much as many of us see parts of ourselves reflected in the impulsiveness of the Apostle Peter, how much more so can we see ourselves in beloved Thomas' insistence on the physical evidence standing in the presence of the risen Jesus but even to touch his physical wounds before he would believe. My choice of hymn reflects our Gospel reading, retelling the astonishing events of that first Easter as well as our Lord's appearances to his disciples in the days that followed.

1. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Ye sons and daughters of the King,
whom heavenly hosts in glory sing,
today the grave bath lost its sting. Alleluia!

2. On that first morning of the week,
before the day began to break,
the Marys went their Lord to seek. Alleluia!

3. An Angel bade their sorrow flee,
for thus he spake unto the three:
'Your Lord is gone to Galilee.' Alleluia!

4. That night the Apostles met in fear,
amidst them came their Lord most dear,
and said: 'Peace be unto you here!' Alleluia!

5. When Thomas afterwards had heard
that Jesus had fulfilled hi word,
he doubted if it were the Lord. Alleluia!

6. 'Thomas, behold my side,' saith he,
'my hands, my feet, my body see;
'and doubt not, but believe in me.' Alleluia!

7. No longer Thomas then denied;
he saw the feet, the hands, the side;
'Thou art my Lord and God,' he cried. Alleluia!

8. Blessèd are they that have not seen,
and yet whose faith bath constant been,
in life eternal they shall reign. Alleluia!

9. On this most holy day of days,
to God your hearts and voices raise
in laud, and jubilee, and praise. Alleluia!

10. And we with holy Church unite,
as evermore is just and right,
in glory to the King of Light. Alleluia!

Diary Dates

Thursday 15th April

Thursday Morning Eucharist 10 am

Sunday 18th April

Third Sunday of Easter 10 am

Sunday 25th April

APCM – 11.30am in the Church



Plant Sale

SUNDAY 23RD MAY 2021

AFTER THE 10 AM SERVICE

**With this in mind, please sow an extra seed or two,
or pot up any spare plants from your garden.**

**Maybe make an extra pot or two of marmalade or put an extra
cake in the freezer to sell on the day. Thank you.**

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