

Their eyes are eventually opened.

I wonder what the words of revelation are that each of us needs to hear at present? What are the words that will speak wisdom and clarity into our individual situations during this pandemic crisis? And who or what might be the source of that wisdom and enlightenment.

Every blessing,
Derek.

Collect, Special Prayer for today

Risen Christ,
you filled your disciples with boldness and fresh hope:
strengthen us to proclaim your risen life
and fill us with your peace,
to the glory of God the Father.

New Testament Reading

Acts 2. 14a, 36-41 NT Pg: 127-128

On the day of Pentecost, Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd, 'Let the entire house of Israel know with certainty that God has made him both Lord and Messiah, this Jesus whom you crucified.'

Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and to the other apostles, 'Brothers, what should we do?' Peter said to them, 'Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him.' And he testified with many other arguments and exhorted them, saying, 'Save yourselves from this corrupt generation.' So those who welcomed his message were baptized, and that day about three thousand persons were added to their number.

New Testament Reading

1 Peter 1. 17-23 NT Pg: 249

If you invoke as Father the one who judges all people impartially according to their deeds, live in reverent fear during the time of your exile. You know that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your ancestors, not with perishable things like silver or gold, but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without defect or blemish. He was destined before the foundation of the world, but was revealed at the end of the ages for your sake. Through him you have come to trust in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are set on God. Now that you have purified your souls by your obedience to the truth so that you have genuine mutual love, love one another deeply from the heart. You have been born anew, not of perishable but of imperishable seed, through the living and enduring word of God.



Gospel Reading

Luke 24. 13-35

NT Pg: 96

On that same day, two of the disciples were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. And he said to them, 'What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?' They stood still, looking sad. Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, 'Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?' Jesus asked them, 'What things?' They replied, 'The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place. Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, and when they did not find his body there, they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said; but they did not see Jesus.' Then he said to them, 'Oh, how foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?' Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures. As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. But they urged him strongly, saying, 'Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over.' So he went in to stay with them. When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized Jesus; and he vanished from their sight. They said to each other, 'Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?' That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. They were saying, 'The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!' Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

News

Coronavirus - Pastoral Care. Can the pastoral team reiterate that if anyone is housebound, for any reason, and especially at this time, the pastoral team can always be contacted and will be pleased to offer assistance in getting any essentials such as food or medicines. Please either call the Church Office on 01306 884229 or for direct support from the Pastoral Team email: smartinspastoral@gmail.com

Traidcraft. Please contact Elizabeth Dobson direct on 881479 if you would like items delivered locally.

Dorking Foodbank is operating at the usual times: <https://dorkingarea.foodbank.org.uk/> from the Christian Centre. Demand is currently very high, and stocks are far lower than usual for this time of year. Donation points in supermarkets remain in place even though the one in the Centre is not available in the current lockdown. The most critical donations we need this week are: Pasta, Pasta Sauce, Tinned Veg, Tinned Meat, Biscuits, Tinned Rice Pudding.

St Martin's Parish Magazine. The May edition of St Martin's Magazine will be available next week on our website: <https://stmartinsdorking.org/news>

Christian Centre news. Although the Centre Café is closed, the foyer is open for Community Fridge access 9-2.30pm on weekdays, plus hot take-away meals are available on weekdays at 12pm. Please call the centre to book your meal on 886830. Also watch out for the sale of a few plants in the entrance (end of April/start of May).

News and Notices for the next issue of the Weekly News Sheet are to be forwarded to the church office by the close of business on Wednesday. Please e-mail stmartinsdorkingchurchoffice@gmail.com or call 01306 884229. The Church Office is closed however Vicki and Michelle can still be contacted by e-mail or telephone.

Please remember in your prayers: Pamela Kerslake, Betty and Brian Smith, Steve Parker, Paul Berning, Heather Anderton, Mike Kendrick, Simon Hardcastle, Frankie Stoner.

And those who have recently died: Eleanor Jones, June Grealy, Jean Radley (Local Preacher), Brian Carr.

Those in our congregation who have long term concerns are prayed for regularly.

Being corporate at a distance. In these unprecedented times we are fortunate that there is a wealth of resources in different media available to enable us to be corporate even when not co-located! Whether you have a basic radio or the latest smartphone, there is something for you:-



Our own Sunday Service on YouTube – access via YouTube, available from 11am on Sunday, click here <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCuzOsRDiIRJE8Y3Zjr3fj0g>

Bishop Jo's Sunday Sermon - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C8LloTjDNjg&feature=youtu.be>

The link to your 9.00am Daily Prayer - <https://www.churchofengland.org/prayer-and-worship/join-us-service-daily-prayer> scroll down to the green Morning Prayer box.

Radio – Choral Evensong - Wednesday 3.30pm and on Sunday at 3pm on Radio3.

TV – Songs of Praise at 1.15pm on Sunday BBC1.

Live Stream Event: St Paul's Church are streaming Sunday services live via their website.

st martin's DORKING

WITH ST. MARY'S PIXHAM

Sunday 26th April
Third Sunday of Easter

Message From Derek

Hello again from the vicarage Study. I hope that this finds you well and that you are managing to get out into this gorgeous sunshine for some exercise. Inevitably, looking at this weekend's readings offered by the lectionary, I am going to find myself drawn to the topic of journeying... of being on a journey. Some might reasonably say that, as metaphors go, this one is just about the most clichéd of them all! There might be a reason for that: it works!

Life is a journey... faith is a journey (or, at least, it should be) ... education is a journey; the list goes on. And we are certainly on a journey, albeit an unexpected journey, as a result of the coronavirus. It's a scary journey; scary because normality has been wiped out and, at this stage, its difficult to see how and when this particularly journey will end... and quite where we will find ourselves when it does! I imagine that's how the disciples were feeling as they journeyed... as they walked along the road to Emmaus. Certainly, for them, normality (whatever that might have looked like) was gone. Plans were scuppered, the future (their future, at least) uncertain. I wonder: what was their motivation as they made that journey? What's *our* motivation as we make this particular journey? Simply to survive? Attempting to make the best of a bad situation? A desire to seize the opportunity to live differently? Whatever their reasons for being on that road at that particular time I think that, we can be fairly certain that, under the circumstances, they have 'talked themselves round in circles' in an attempt to find some sense in what is going on, in the events that have overtaken them. Is any of this sounding familiar? What is going on? What can it mean? They would have asked themselves these question over and over again. All the hopes that they had vested in Jesus were seemingly confounded; all their plans for the future now in tatters. So all that they thought about, believed about God and his purposes for them - their previous certainties - felt overturned... gone... their very foundations uprooted. And yet, completely unexpectedly, an encounter with a stranger on their journey changes everything once more. At first the disciple are angry with this guy: what's with this stranger? Where's he been this past few days? He seems calm... they are in turmoil; and they take this out on him. And, into their turmoil, he speaks words of revelation.