

**THIS WEEK'S SERVICES
IN CHURCH AND ONLINE**

The following services are available across the team - full details on the website and email bulletin.

SUNDAY 18TH APRIL

St Mary's Saffron Walden - in Church/YouTube/Zoom

10.00am A Service of Commemoration for His Royal Highness Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh
Leader: Jeremy Trew

St Botolph's Hadstock - in Church

9.30am Holy Communion President: Paula Griffiths

All Saints Ashdon - in Church

9.30am Holy Communion President: Caroline Curren

All Saints' Wimbish - in Church/Zoom

9.15am Holy Communion President: Hilary Davey

CAM VILLAGES ONLINE

Wendens Ambo - Zoom

9.30am Morning Prayer Leader: Alan Curren

TUESDAY

5.00pm Evening Prayer Leader: Sue Walker
Zoom

WEDNESDAY

9.30am Holy Communion President: Paula Griffiths
Zoom

**NEXT SUNDAY 25TH APRIL
SERVICES IN CHURCH AND ONLINE**

St Mary's Saffron Walden - in Church/YouTube/Zoom

10.00am Holy Communion President: Jeremy Trew
12 noon APCM - **Zoom only**

St James' Swards End - in Church

9.30am Morning Praise Leader: Chris Bishop

St John's Little Walden - in Church

11.15am Family Service Leader: Tracey Nicholls

St Botolph's Hadstock - in Church

9.30am Holy Communion President: Paula Griffiths

All Saints Ashdon - in Church

9.30am Holy Communion President: Caroline Curren

St Mary's Debden - in Church/Zoom

9.15am Holy Communion President: John Saxon

CAM VILLAGES ONLINE

Wendens Ambo - Zoom

9.30am Holy Communion President Alex Jeewan

Great Chesterford - Facebook

11.00am Holy Communion President: Alex Jeewan

See St Mary's Church, SW, website at www.stmaryssaffronwalden.org to find out more.



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The Grapevine

COVERING THE PARISHES OF SAFFRON WALDEN,
WIMBISH, DEBDEN, ASHDON AND HADSTOCK

Welcome to our services today

Third Sunday of Easter

18th April 2021

Collect

Almighty Father, who in your great mercy gladdened the disciples with the sight of the risen Lord: give us such knowledge of his presence with us, that we may be strengthened and sustained by his risen life and serve you continually in righteousness and truth; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

First Reading: Acts 3.12-19

Peter addressed the people, 'You Israelites, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we had made him walk? The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our ancestors has glorified his servant Jesus, whom you handed over and rejected in the presence of Pilate, though he had decided to release him. But you rejected the Holy and Righteous One and asked to have a murderer given to you, and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. And by faith in his name, his name itself has made this man strong, whom you see and know; and the faith that is through Jesus has given him this perfect health in the presence of all of you. 'And now, friends, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. In this way God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, that his Messiah would suffer. Repent therefore, and turn to God so that your sins may be wiped out.'

Gospel: Luke 24.36b-48

While the eleven and their companions were talking about what they had heard, Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, 'Peace be with you.' They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. He said to them, 'Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have.' And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, 'Have you anything here to eat?' They gave him a piece of broiled fish, and he took it and ate in their presence. Then he said to them, 'These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you - that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.' Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, 'Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things.'

Post Communion

Living God, your Son made himself known to his disciples in the breaking of bread: open the eyes of our faith, that we may see him in all his redeeming work; who is alive and reigns, now and for ever.

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

In April please pray for: **St Mary's Church of England, St Mary's C of E Primary School**
 Those whose wedding banns are being called at St Mary's Saffron Walden:
David Cox & Charlotte Moffatt, Mark Cornell & Karen Storey, David Lockwood & Denise Smith, Andrew Taylor & Victoria Smith
Michael Cargill & Amanda James (Wimbish),
Samuel Body & Hilary Lester (Ashdon),
Shaun Bartram & Jennifer Eastcott (Ashdon)

REFLECTIONS

How many times have you seen something incredible or beautiful and have said 'I don't believe it'?

Well, today, we have in the Gospel that reaction to the appearance of the risen Lord..... 'while in their joy they were disbelieving'.

Having this passage from Luke in front of me, I am going to cheat in my reflection. For many years, thanks to friends in Texas, I have received a weekly Bible reflection from the Episcopal Church (Anglicans, like us, in the CofE). In the back of my note book I have stuck the following reflection on this passage:

'This resurrection appearance has the addition of Jesus asking for and receiving a bite of breakfast. Its purpose is to show that the resurrection is a whole new category of existence. The risen Lord is not material, as shown by his sudden appearance among the disciples, nor is he ghostly, as illustrated by his eating real fish, something material that ghosts do not do. The point is that while our minds are confined to time and space, God is not.

That is one of the reasons it is not very helpful to spend time thinking about the details of the next life. Our limited minds cannot grasp it, so we must be content with the vague indicators of scripture and tradition. We can anticipate new life, but we will probably enter it with as little understanding as we had at birth. The world waiting for us is as different from this life as this life is from life in the womb.'

With every blessing at this special time of the year.

Chris Bishop

PRAYER FOR THIS WEEK

Accept, O Lord, our thanks and praise for all that you have done for us. We thank you for the splendour of the whole creation, for the beauty of this world, for the wonder of life, and for the mystery of love.

BIBLE READINGS FOR THIS WEEK

Mon 19th	Morning Psalm 96 & Ephesians 1:1-14 Evening Psalm 61
Tue 20th	Morning Psalm 98 & Ephesians 1:15-end Evening Psalm 71 & Luke 1:26-38
Wed 21st	Morning Psalm 105 & Ephesians 2:1-10 Evening Psalm 72
Thurs 22nd	Morning Psalm 136 & Ephesians 2:11-end Evening Psalm 73
Fri 23rd	Morning Psalm 5 & Ephesians 6:10-20 Evening Psalm 3
Sat 24th	Morning Psalm 110 & Ephesians 3:14-end Evening Psalm 27

NEWS

SUNDAY 18th April 10am at St Mary's SW. Service of Commemoration for HRH Prince Philip Duke of Edinburgh. This Civic Service will be livestreamed in the usual way. Limited places in church can be booked by telephone or on Eventbrite. (The family service has been cancelled this month.) St Mary's is open 10am-12noon daily until Saturday 17th April for private prayer during the period of mourning for Prince Philip. There is an opportunity to write an entry for the online book of condolence for those who do not use the internet.

SERVICES AVAILABLE ONLINE are listed on the back page and in the weekly bulletin. Zoom services can be accessed by telephone - please contact the Parish Office for further details.

PRIVATE PRAYER St Mary's, Saffron Walden is open on Sunday and Wednesday afternoons from 2pm - 4pm. Ashdon is open every day and Hadstock is open by appointment.

LITTLEBURY PLANT SALE OUTSIDE THE CHURCH
Sunday 18th April 2.30 - 4.00pm. You're invited to bring your mask with you; contactless payment is available. *Janice Rust*

ANNUAL MEETINGS - 25TH APRIL PAPERS The agenda and papers, including the Annual Review and financial statement, for the annual meetings, which will be held at midday using the same Zoom details as for the main Sunday service on 25th April, are available from the following link: www.stmaryssaffronwalden.org/annualmeetings

If you would like printed copies of the papers, please contact the Parish Administrator by telephone or email by 10am on 19th April so that they can be posted to you to arrive before the meeting. *Lisa Brook*

THE LIST OF NAMES FROM THE REVISED ELECTORAL ROLL IS NOW AVAILABLE in St Mary's, Saffron Walden, St John's, Little Walden, St James, Swards End and from the Parish Office. Please notify me of any errors or omissions before the APCM on 25th April 2021. Otherwise, no new names may now be added to the roll until after the APCM. *Clifford Want*

SMMA AGM: This will take place on **Zoom on Friday 30th April at 7:30pm.** The SMMA supports the music of the church and we are hopefully starting to emerge from one of the most challenging times during peace time. This will be in place of the usual 7:30pm choir practice. All members and others who may be interested are welcome to attend. Join Zoom Meeting <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86390097625?pwd=M1o0UTRhVm51MDk5WHpZTkdkVLzNBQT09> Meeting ID: 863 9009 7625 Passcode: 930100. *Bron Ferland*

Foreign and British commemorative **STAMPS, CURRENCY, BRITISH COINS** and notes that are no longer in circulation, please put through the post box outside St Mary's Parish Office. All proceeds go to Hearing Dogs for Deaf People. *Margaret Walter*

PARISH OFFICE HOURS The Parish Administrator is available by phone or email on Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays 9.30am - 12 noon. The office is not currently open to personal callers.

MINISTRY TEAM

Rector: Revd Jeremy Trew	01799 500947
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Pastoral Assistant: Judith Hasler	01799 525041
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Revd Paula Griffiths	01799 599141
Revd Alex Jeewan	01799 531153
Revd John Saxon	01799 541619
Revd Dr Caroline Currer	01799 584839