

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 25TH APRIL

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

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

St James' Searwards 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 Currer

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
Preacher: Hilary Walker

Great Chesterford - Facebook

11.00am Holy Communion President: Alex Jeewan
Preacher: Hilary Walker

TUESDAY

5.00pm Evening Prayer Leader: Paula Griffiths
Zoom

WEDNESDAY

9.30am Holy Communion President: John Saxon
Zoom

NEXT SUNDAY 2ND MAY SERVICES IN CHURCH AND ONLINE

St Mary's Saffron Walden

8.00am Holy Communion 1662 President: Jeremy Trew
- in Church/YouTube Preacher: Rachel Prior

6.30pm H2H Youth Led Service
- in Church Leader: Matt Williamson

St Botolph's Hadstock - in Church

9.30am Family Service Leader: Paula Griffiths

All Saints Ashdon - in Church

9.30am Holy Communion President: Caroline Currer

All Saints' Wimbish - in Church/Zoom

9.15am Sunday Praise Leader: John Saxon

CAM VILLAGES ONLINE

Wendens Ambo - Zoom

9.30am Family Service Leader: Home Team
Talk: Alex Jeewan

Great Chesterford - Facebook

11.00am Morning Prayer: Leader: Elizabeth Marshall

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

Please 'Like' our Facebook page so we reach more people! Click on the link on our website, or go to:
www.facebook.com/saintmaryschurchsaffronwalden



SAFFRON WALDEN & VILLAGES TEAM MINISTRY

The Grapevine

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

Welcome to our services today

Fourth Sunday of Easter

25th April 2021

Collect

Almighty God, whose Son Jesus Christ is the resurrection and the life: raise us, who trust in him, from the death of sin to the life of righteousness, that we may seek those things which are above, where he reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

First Reading: Acts 4.5-12

The Jewish rulers, elders, and scribes assembled in Jerusalem, with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. When they had made the prisoners stand in their midst, they inquired, 'By what power or by what name did you do this?' Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, 'Rulers of the people and elders, if we are questioned today because of a good deed done to someone who was sick and are asked how this man has been healed, let it be known to all of you, and to all the people of Israel, that this man is standing before you in good health by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead. This Jesus is "the stone that was rejected by you, the builders; it has become the cornerstone." There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved.'

Gospel: John 10.11-18

Jesus said to the Pharisees: 'I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away – and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father.'

Post Communion

Merciful Father, you gave your Son Jesus Christ to be the good shepherd, and in his love for us to lay down his life and rise again: keep us always under his protection, and give us grace to follow in his steps; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

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.** St James' Swards End: **Michael Chitson and Lesley Maher**
The family and friends of those who have died recently:
Richard Parry-Jones

REFLECTIONS - JOHN RISBY

Traumatised. A much used word today, but one that describes how those disciples of Jesus must have felt in the days following our Lord's crucifixion and resurrection. How reassuring it must have been to be told that they were to return to Galilee and to meet the risen Lord there. Back in familiar surroundings, with friends and families, and for the fishermen a chance to get in their boats again.

It was over a welcome fish breakfast, that Jesus chose to debrief them about all that happened. They heard him say that everything written in the writings of Moses and the prophets, and the psalms about him had to be fulfilled, and as he spoke he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures. Gradually, like a jigsaw puzzle, the pieces began to fit together and they saw that the Christ had to suffer and be raised on the third day. Our Gospel reading today picks up a picture of the Lord as the Good Shepherd, an example of how the old Scriptures [Psalm 23] related to Jesus. It was a picture that was easy to understand, and remains one of the main reasons that this psalm is so popular and well-loved today centuries later.

Jesus contrasted himself with the thief and the hired man and sadly there are those today who are like predators and pretenders who fleece the vulnerable and needy. Jesus is the good shepherd, one who really has the welfare of his flock at heart, and one who is prepared to do anything and everything for them. In the psalm we are reminded that the shepherd provides and nurtures his own, feeding them and refreshing them, he promises his presence with them, even in the darkest and most challenging of days, and he is willing to protect the sheep that he knows and belongs to him, even by laying down his life for them. The disciples had known the Lord's pastoral care of them for those three years or so, and now they began to see that his death was a necessary one in order that they might be forgiven and be welcomed in that prepared place where they would live with him for ever.

This is the good news of the Christian faith, that everyone is known and is loved, and that at great cost [the death of God's own son] the door to his fold is opened and we are all welcomed to come to the Father through faith in his son. I really missed singing hymns on Easter Sunday [not that I am a great singer] but because from the heart it needed to be expressed,

'Thine be the glory, risen conquering King!
Lo, Jesus meets us, risen from the tomb;
Lovingly he greets us, scatters fear and gloom!
Let the church with gladness, hymns of triumph sing,
For her Lord now liveth, death has lost its sting.'

PRAYER FOR THIS WEEK

O Lord, we are your people, and the sheep of your pasture, help us to enter your gates with thanksgiving, and into your courts with praise, that we may ever give thanks and bless your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

BIBLE READINGS FOR THIS WEEK

Mon 26th	Morning Psalm 37:23-end & Acts 12:25-13.13 Evening Psalm 45
Tue 27th	Morning Psalm 139 & Ephesians 4:17-end Evening Psalm 116 & Luke 3:1-14
Wed 28th	Morning Psalm 135 & Ephesians 5:1-14 Evening Psalm 47
Thurs 29th	Morning Psalm 118 & Ephesians 5:15-end Evening Psalm 85
Fri 30th	Morning Psalm 33 & Ephesians 6:1-9 Evening Psalm 36
Sat 1st May	Morning Psalm 139 & James 1:1-12 Evening Psalm 149

NEWS

SERVICES IN CHURCH Services are taking place in all our churches this week. Numbers are restricted to be COVID safe. If you wish to attend St Mary's SW in person, please book your place in advance by telephoning the Parish Office by noon on Friday or by booking online using the bulletin link.

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.

SAFFRON WALDEN ANNUAL MEETINGS - TODAY 25th April at 12 noon - will take place on Zoom only using the same Zoom codes as for the main Sunday service. The agenda and papers for the meeting, including the Annual Review and financial statement, are available on the website www.stmaryssaffronwalden.org/annualmeetings 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.

COPY for the next edition of **PARISH NEWS** may be sent to the editor andycoblebrooke@gmail.com by Sunday 2nd May.

Please send items for the **GRAPEVINE** to secretary.swrectory@ntlworld.com by 9.00am on Wednesday.

MINISTRY TEAM

Rector: Revd Jeremy Trew	01799 500947
Email: rector@stmaryssaffronwalden.org	
Parish Administrator: Dawn Saxon	01799 506024
Email: office@stmaryssaffronwalden.org	
Pastoral Assistant: Judith Hasler	01799 525041
Email: judithhasler@btopenworld.com	
Revd Paula Griffiths	01799 599141
Revd Alex Jeewan	01799 531153
Revd John Saxon	01799 541619
Revd Dr Caroline Curren	01799 584839