#### **NOTICES**

#### **Prayer Compass Celebration:**

Join us for an evening of prayer, praise and worship on: **Tuesday April 16th 7.30pm, at St Peter's Church Bengeworth.** 

This is a great chance to gather together with people from across Evesham and the Vale. The guest speaker is Alistair Cole from Watchman Ministries.

## **APCM - Calling all bakers!**

Could you sprinkle some baking magic into our next APCM? We're looking for volunteers to make scones to be shared at the next meeting. Please speak with Andy or the church office if you can help. The date of the APCM has been updated to Sunday 28th April at 3.30pm, gathering from 3pm for cream teas. Venue: Church House (next to Lidl, opposite the church building).

## **April Prayer Focus:**

1 Peter 1:3-4 Praise to God for a Living Hope

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade. This inheritance is kept in heaven for you.

**Reflection:** Through Easter we have again remembered the cost of our salvation, the way Jesus was forsaken and left alone by His Father, to take our sin on Himself. We celebrated Jesus' resurrection from death. With the death and resurrection of Jesus we have freedom to access God our Father without having to use a priest as an intermediary as in Old Testament times or have to bring sacrifices to God to atone for our wrongdoing. We are such a privileged people.

Over the coming weeks let us remind ourselves what we have been saved from (an eternity cut off from Father God) and truly give thanks to Him for His salvation plan.

As Church family, let us encourage each other with this Good News.





Sunday 14th April 2024

## Today's Services and Events – Easter 3

- 8.00am Holy Communion.
- 9.15am Morning Praise.
- 11.00am Informal Gathering.

**Gluten free Communion breads are available.** Do please ask one of the welcomers or the Wardens if you require this. The Church is fitted with a loop system. To use this, please switch your hearing aid to 'T'.

# **Church Diary for the Week**

- Mon 15<sup>th</sup> April 2pm: Funeral Marilyn James (Vale),
- Mon 15<sup>th</sup> April 7pm: Standing Committee Meeting,
- Tues 16<sup>th</sup> April 10.00am: Holy Communion,
- Tues 16<sup>th</sup> April 2.30pm: Hawthorns Songs of Praise,
- Tues 16<sup>th</sup> April 7pm: Prayer Compass Meeting, 7.30pm Prayer Meeting,
- Weds 17<sup>th</sup> April 12pm: Funeral of Mrs. Pauline Collins,
- Weds 17<sup>th</sup> April 7pm: Pershore Choir Rehearsal,
- Friday 19<sup>th</sup> April 10.00am Choir Practice,
- Friday 19<sup>th</sup> April: 7.00pm Pershore Choir Concert.

## Next Sunday's Services and Events – 21st April 2024

- 8.00am Holy Communion.
- 9.15am Morning Eucharist.
- 11.00am Informal Gathering.

#### **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.

#### Reading: Acts 3:12-19

<sup>12</sup> When Peter saw this, he said to them: "Fellow Israelites, why does this surprise you? Why do you stare at us as if by our own power or godliness we had made this man walk? <sup>13</sup> The God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, the God of our fathers, has glorified his servant Jesus. You handed him over to be killed, and you disowned him before Pilate, though he had decided to let him go. <sup>14</sup> You disowned the Holy and Righteous One and asked that a murderer be released to you. <sup>15</sup> You killed the author of life, but God raised him from the dead. We are witnesses of this. <sup>16</sup> By faith in the name of Jesus, this man whom you see and know was made strong. It is Jesus' name and the faith that comes through him that has completely healed him, as you can all see.

<sup>17</sup> "Now, fellow Israelites, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did your leaders. <sup>18</sup> But this is how God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, saying that his Messiah would suffer. <sup>19</sup> Repent, then, and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out, that times of refreshing may come from the Lord,

# Gospel Reading: Luke 9:10-17

<sup>10</sup> When the apostles returned, they reported to Jesus what they had done. Then he took them with him and they withdrew by themselves to a town called Bethsaida, <sup>11</sup> but the crowds learned about it and followed him. He welcomed them and spoke to them about the kingdom of God, and healed those who needed healing.

<sup>12</sup> Late in the afternoon the Twelve came to him and said, "Send the crowd away so they can go to the surrounding villages and countryside and find food and lodging, because we are in a remote place here."

<sup>13</sup> He replied, "You give them something to eat."

They answered, "We have only five loaves of bread and two fish—unless we go and buy food for all this crowd." <sup>14</sup> (About five thousand men were there.)

But he said to his disciples, "Have them sit down in groups of about fifty each." <sup>15</sup> The disciples did so, and everyone sat down. <sup>16</sup> Taking the five loaves and the two fish and looking up to heaven, he gave thanks and broke them. Then he gave them to the disciples to distribute to the people. <sup>17</sup> They all ate and were satisfied, and the disciples picked up twelve basketfuls of broken pieces that were left over.

#### **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.

## For our Prayers this Week:

For those who are sick, in special need or housebound. Mark Bartlett, Dave Cockram, Colin Hemming, Ella Graves, Stuart Pickett, Eileen Pieters, Helen Shepherd (Pat Bullman's daughter).

For the family and friends of those who have died: Neville Cole, Pauline Collins, Marilyn James, Lorna Smith, Mary Smith.