

NOTICES

Safeguarding Survey: INEQE Safeguarding Group have been asked to carry out Safeguarding Audits of the Church of England to make sure dioceses, cathedrals and palaces are doing all they can to create environments where everyone feels safe, valued and respected. If you have a few minutes spare and would like to take part, please visit the site below. *There are different surveys available for different roles e.g. the parish community, church attendees, staff etc.* <https://ineqe.com/churchofengland/worcester/> Your contribution will be greatly valued to help the Diocese develop and encourage robust safeguarding procedures. Thank you.

Prayer Focus: Psalm 81:7-9 In your distress you called and I rescued you, I answered you out of a thundercloud; I tested you at the waters of Meribah. 8 Hear me, my people, and I will warn you—if you would only listen to me, Israel! 9 You shall have no foreign god among you; you shall not worship any god other than me. **James 1:22-24** Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says. **23** Anyone who listens to the word but does not do what it says is like someone who looks at his face in a mirror **24** and, after looking at himself, goes away and immediately forgets what he looks like. **Reflection:** How do we listen to God? How do we know that He is speaking to us? Scripture tells us of the many times that God's chosen people, the Israelites failed to listen to Him. When things became tough, they hankered after the old days of slavery and capture in Egypt, but His patience, His Grace is without bounds. It can be difficult to hear God at times, let alone listen to Him through all the busyness and difficulties that can crowd in on us at times. Many things compete for our attention each day. We need to find a secret or quiet place where we can regularly spend time alone with God reading our Bibles and being open to see what happens. Practice spending time with God, reading His Word. He speaks in many and varied ways at various times in our lives. This month, let's all give serious listening a try. When we've experienced God speaking into our lives, (it may be from the Bible, another person, or perhaps God will give us a thought or a picture) write it down and be prepared to tell someone else about it so that we can encourage each other to continue listening.



Sunday 31st March 2024



Today's Services and Events – Easter Sunday

- 8.00am Holy Communion.
- 10.00am Easter Service.

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

- Tues 2nd April: 10.00am – Holy Communion.
- Tues 2nd April: 7.30pm – Prayer Meeting.
- Thurs 4th April: 3.00pm Cavendish Park Songs of Praise.
- Friday 5th April 10.00am - Choir Practice.
- Friday 5th April: 11.00am Church Cleaning

Next Sunday's Services and Events – 7th April 2024

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

Collect:

Lord of all life and power, who through the mighty resurrection of your Son overcame the old order of sin and death to make all things new in him: grant that we, being dead to sin and alive to you in Jesus Christ, may reign with him in glory; to whom with you and the Holy Spirit be praise and honour, glory and might, now and in all eternity.

Reading: John 20:1-18

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene went to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the entrance. ² So she came running to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one Jesus loved, and said, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we don't know where they have put him!"

³ So Peter and the other disciple started for the tomb. ⁴ Both were running, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. ⁵ He bent over and looked in at the strips of linen lying there but did not go in. ⁶ Then Simon Peter came along behind him and went straight into the tomb. He saw the strips of linen lying there, ⁷ as well as the cloth that had been wrapped around Jesus' head. The cloth was still lying in its place, separate from the linen. ⁸ Finally the other disciple, who had reached the tomb first, also went inside. He saw and believed. ⁹ (They still did not understand from Scripture that Jesus had to rise from the dead.) ¹⁰ Then the disciples went back to where they were staying.

Jesus Appears to Mary Magdalene

¹¹ Now Mary stood outside the tomb crying. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb ¹² and saw two angels in white, seated where Jesus' body had been, one at the head and the other at the foot.

¹³ They asked her, "Woman, why are you crying?" "They have taken my Lord away," she said, "and I don't know where they have put him." ¹⁴ At this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not realize that it was Jesus.

¹⁵ He asked her, "Woman, why are you crying? Who is it you are looking for?" Thinking he was the gardener, she said, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have put him, and I will get him." ¹⁶ Jesus said to her, "Mary." She turned toward him and cried out in Aramaic, "Rabboni!" (which means "Teacher"). ¹⁷ Jesus said, "Do not hold on to me, for I have not yet ascended to the Father. Go instead to my brothers and tell them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.'" ¹⁸ Mary Magdalene went to the disciples with the news: "I have seen the Lord!" And she told them that he had said these things to her.

Gospel Reading:

None this week.

Post Communion:

God of Life, who for our redemption gave your only-begotten Son to the death of the cross, and by his glorious resurrection have delivered us from the power of our enemy: grant us so to die daily to sin, that we may evermore live with him in the joy of his risen life; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

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: Pauline Collins, Neville Cole.

