

EASTLEIGH  
PARISH

April 4th & 11th

# Outlook

News & Information in the Life of Eastleigh Parish Church

*"He is not here; he has risen, just as he said.  
Come and see the place where he lay."*

Matt 28:6



pixabay.com/jeffjacobs1990

Connect with us: [EastleighParish.com](http://EastleighParish.com) [Facebook.com/EastleighParish](https://www.facebook.com/EastleighParish)

Feel free to send feedback, suggested items for future editions of Outlook, or questions/comments from today's sermon to [Outlook@eastleighparish.com](mailto:Outlook@eastleighparish.com)

## Bible Reading for Easter Sunday, 4th April

John 20:1-18 (NIVUK)

**1** 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 round 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.

**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 round and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not realise that it was Jesus.

**15** He asked her, 'Woman, why are you crying? Who is it you are looking for?'

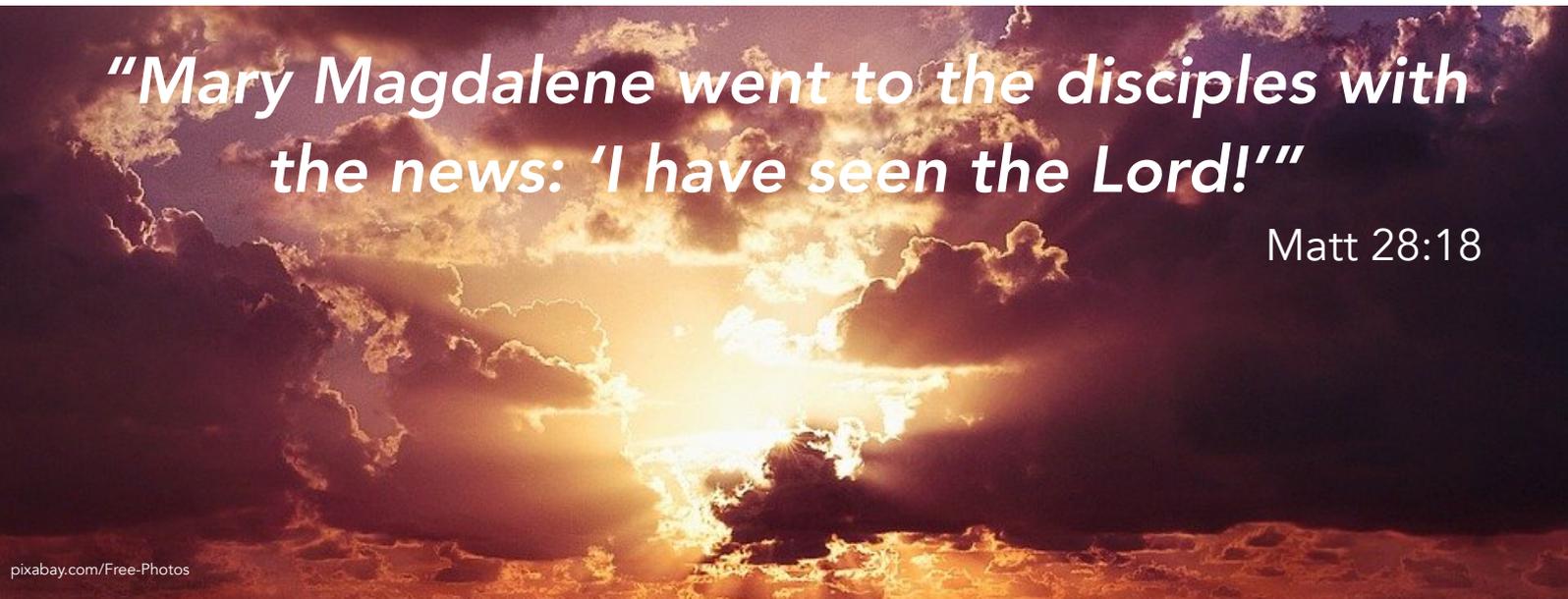
Thinking he was the gardener, she said, 'Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have put him, and I will get him.'

**16** Jesus said to her, 'Mary.'

She turned towards 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.



*"Mary Magdalene went to the disciples with the news: 'I have seen the Lord!'"*

Matt 28:18

## Bible Reading for 11th April

John 20:19-31 (NIVUK)

**19** On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with the doors locked for fear of the Jewish leaders, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you!' **20** After he said this, he showed them his hands and side. The disciples were overjoyed when they saw the Lord.

**21** Again Jesus said, 'Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you.' **22** And with that he breathed on them and said, 'Receive the Holy Spirit. **23** If you forgive anyone's sins, their sins are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven.'

**24** Now Thomas (also known as Didymus), one of the Twelve, was not with the disciples when Jesus came. **25** So the other disciples told him, 'We have seen the Lord!'

But he said to them, 'Unless I see the nail marks in his hands and put my finger where the nails

were, and put my hand into his side, I will not believe.'

**26** A week later his disciples were in the house again, and Thomas was with them. Though the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you!'

**27** Then he said to Thomas, 'Put your finger here; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe.'

**28** Thomas said to him, 'My Lord and my God!'

**29** Then Jesus told him, 'Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.'

**30** Jesus performed many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not recorded in this book. **31** But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

[pixabay.com/picjumbo\\_com](https://pixabay.com/picjumbo_com)

*"Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you!'"*

Matt 28:19b

# Services this weekend:

## Good Friday

- Online CTiE Service
- The Cross on the Green at 1.30pm-2.15pm outside St Francis'
- All Saints' open for quiet reflection at 2.30pm-4.00pm
- Youth Worship Evening at 8.00pm outside St Francis'

## Saturday

- Special Easter Saturday Family Service at 2.00pm outside St Francis'

## Easter Sunday

- Sunrise Service at 7.30am online
- Sunday Morning Telephone Service at 8.45am
- Holy Communion at 9.30am online and in person at All Saints'
- 11 O'clock online

## Eastleigh Basics Bank - The Big Thank You

We are going to be supporting Eastleigh Basics Bank's 10 year anniversary by displaying a banner, like the one seen below, outside both St Francis' and All Saints' during May and June 2021. Together we can celebrate Eastleigh Basics Bank as they continue to supply food to those in need.



## Some useful contact details:

**Ian** (Vicar): 07809 668 118 & **Sue**: 07502 427 693

**Phil Watson** (Church Warden): 07966 159 684

**Adrian Nance** (Licensed Lay Minister): 07973 232 872

**Keith Pickering** (Church Warden - All Saints'): 07905 249 860

**Michael Weatherall** (Youth/Children's Min): 07311 820 975

**Darryl Yeates** (Church Warden - St Francis'): 07810 400 896



## Catechesis

We're taking a short break from our normal videos/Q&A. These helpful questions and answers will return after Easter.



pixabay.com/Textler

## No Midweek Service Wednesday 7th April

Please note, there'll be no midweek service at 9.15am on the first Wednesday after Easter. We'll be back to normal from Wednesday 14th onwards.

## A Date for Your Diary



pixabay.com/Pexels

Making plans has been quite tricky in recent times! Obviously, no one knows exactly what the future may look like with regards to public gatherings, etc. but the Ministry Leadership Team thought that it might be a good idea to put a very speculative date in the diary on which we might (**might!**) try to host a street party outside of All Saints' on Desborough Rd. With this in mind, will you make a note of **Monday 30th August** as a possible date of a celebration of the end (?) of lockdown?

In particular, we'd like to use the occasion to thank Basics Bank and many others for all the amazing work they've done throughout the pandemic.

## Job Opportunities at The King's School

### A unique opportunity to shape the lives of young people in a Christian environment



#### Current Vacancies

- **Key Stage 2**                      **Primary Teacher**  
**Full or part time**  
**One year contract**
- **Key Stage 2**                      **Primary Music Teacher**  
**Two afternoons a week**
- **Key Stage 1**                      **Primary Teacher**  
**Mornings only**

**Starting:**                              September 2021

**Closing date:**                      Monday 19<sup>th</sup> April 2021

The King's School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and applicants must be willing to undergo child protection screening appropriate to the post, including checks with past employers, the DBS and Prohibition checks

For more information and application form please email Margaret Walker  
[m.walker@thekingsschool.org.uk](mailto:m.walker@thekingsschool.org.uk)

The King's School, Lakesmere House, Allington Lane, Fair Oak, Eastleigh SO50 7DB

## Children's Ministry

For weekly Sunday videos, crafts, Bible studies, prayer activities, and more visit [www.eastleighparish.com/children-s-ministry](http://www.eastleighparish.com/children-s-ministry)

# Sunday Service Pattern from Easter Onwards

As you can imagine, we need to constantly review what is/isn't possible based on the latest pandemic advice, but this is what we're currently planning:

## 8:45am Telephone Service

This will stay in operation for as long as it's needed.

Speak to Geoff C on **02380 696 591** if you need help accessing this service  
- or know of someone who does.



## 9.30am Holy Communion

This liturgical service will be available *both* in-person and online every Sunday until further notice. Sadly, we're not permitted to sing inside at this time and so those attending All Saints' will only be allowed to listen to the hymns. Likewise, at this stage we're not allowed to chat to people outside of our social bubble indoors - which means that you (yes, you!) will have to wait until you're outside All Saints' to talk to your friends.



## 11 o'clock

Our informal service will remain online-only for the time being.

As soon as the weather looks settled (is it ever in England?), we plan to meet outside St Francis' every week.

We have May 23rd in mind as a start date, but this could be brought forward or pushed back depending on 1001 possibilities. We'll keep you posted!



## Eastleigh Community Pantry

The Pantry initiative is designed to support people with food deprivation, helping them to escape or move on from their current emergency with a 'helping hand' approach.

Do you know someone who might benefit from this? For more information, please visit Romsey Community Services' [website](#).



## Fledge Trustees

Fledge is a charity providing support and housing for young people in Eastleigh Borough, and they are currently looking for Trustees. If you have skills around fund raising, finances, housing, working with young people, or charity governance then do head to their [website](#) to find out more.

# What Does Easter Mean?

By Canon J. John

(<https://canonjohn.com/2020/04/11/what-does-easter-mean/>)

Here's a really helpful commentary on the meaning of Easter, written by Canon J John. You can find lots more helpful articles like this one from J. John on his blog which you can [access by clicking here](#).

What does Easter mean? Let me suggest three things that we all need to know and need to remember.

First, Easter is about God's *involvement* with us. Some people believe in a God who is like some orbiting satellite, floating high above the earth and viewing us all with curiosity but no concern. The God of the Bible is not like that. At Christmas we see how God's love for the human race compelled him to become one of us in Jesus, but at Easter we see how deep that love made him go. Here Jesus descends to the worst depths of human experience; he is betrayed, abandoned by friends, given a sham trial, tortured and then brutally executed. He is not like some celebrity who, in the face of a tragedy, turns up for two minutes, poses for a brief video clip and is then helicoptered away. Jesus is described as 'Emmanuel: God with us' (Matthew 1:23) and Easter reminds us that he didn't opt out from being 'with us' when

things got tough. In these days it's thought-provoking that in his crucifixion Jesus would have experienced painful isolation – 'My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?' (Matthew 27:46) – that he died in agony and was buried in haste. It is a reminder that we have a God who, in Jesus, became totally involved in our world, from accepting a birth in poverty to enduring a death in cruelty. If you are not yet a believer in Jesus, then this is the God who invites you to know him. If you are a believer, then be comforted: in whatever situation you find yourself, Jesus remains close to you. He is involved in all we are and all we suffer.

Second, Easter is about God's *intervention* for us. The good news of Christianity is that God did more than just come alongside us in the darkness of life; he did something about it. Easter is all about how God intervened in the brokenness of our lives in this world in order to redeem and restore it.





At the heart of that intervention for humanity is Jesus' death. On the cross, he grappled with all that is evil and absorbed it into himself. It is as if, in dying, Jesus created a spiritual black hole that drew in and neutralised all those 'viruses' that wreck lives: sin, guilt, evil and even death itself. The Easter story comes in two parts and we cannot linger on Good Friday. Part One ends with a hurried burial that appears to be, most definitely, the end. But there is Part Two: on the Sunday we see Jesus risen from the dead – not just alive but as *life* itself. It is the proof that Jesus didn't just grapple with evil but triumphed over it. In his death, death died. If you are not yet a believer in Jesus, then this is the heart of the matter: an intervening God who takes the sin, guilt and pain that you cannot bear and bears it himself at the cross. And if you are a believer, then be comforted: in whatever situation you find yourself, Jesus is victorious over the worst this world can throw at you.

Finally, the real Easter is about God's *invitation* to us. Wonderfully, God became involved in the human race and intervened for all of us. Yet the important and unmissable part of the Easter story is that it is not merely about humanity in general; it is about you in particular. Jesus offers each one of us an invitation. It is an offer to let him intervene on our behalf, to take our sin and

guilt. It is an offer to know the power, love, joy, peace and hope of the resurrection that we all need at this time. It is an invitation that demands a response from you and me. This Easter, why not accept it? And if you have already accepted it, can I just encourage you to trust in it. Let the Easter message that Jesus has died and risen from the dead be with you in all you do. Can I encourage you to receive Jesus Christ or reaffirm your faith by praying this prayer:

*Dear Jesus, thank you for dying on the cross for me. I believe you are alive today and you are Lord and God.*

*Please forgive all my sins and guilt and cleanse me from all the wrong I have ever done.*

*Set me free from the past. I invite you into my life by your Holy Spirit. Fill me with your power, presence and peace.*

*Help me from this day on to follow you.*

*I pray this prayer in Jesus' name. Amen.*

If you prayed this prayer, Jesus has not only heard it but answered it. I encourage you to [click here](#) to read my booklet *Making the Connection* which will reinforce what I have explained here and give you some advice for the future.

Grace and Peace

**J. John**

Reverend Canon

EAST LEIGH  
PARISH

[www.EastleighParish.com](http://www.EastleighParish.com)