



The Ross Parishes

rossparishes.uk

Ross-on-Wye

Walford

Brampton Abbots

Newsletter

Sunday 14th April 2024

The third Sunday of Easter

A very warm welcome to worship in our parishes today

growing inclusive, intergenerational churches that inspire faith, hope and love

Today's Services

Sunday 14th April

8.00am BCP Holy Communion at St Mary's

9.30am Sung Eucharist at St Mary's

9.30am Parish Eucharist at St Michael's, Walford

Music for St Mary's

9.30am - Sung Eucharist

Introit hymn: 486 Christ is the King

Gradual hymn: 769 Rejoice, the Lord is King

Offertory hymn: 709 Light of the minds

Post Communion hymn: 218 Thine be the glory

Prayer & readings for today

Collect

Risen Christ, you filled your disciples with boldness and fresh hope: strengthen us to proclaim your risen life and fill us with your peace, to the glory of God the Father.

Amen.

First Reading

Reader: A reading from the Book of the Acts of the Apostles.

When Peter saw it, he 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,

[Acts of the Apostles 3.12-19]

Reader: This is the word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Reading

One day he got into a boat with his disciples, and he said to them, 'Let us go across to the other side of the lake.' So they put out, and while they were sailing he fell asleep. A gale swept down on the lake, and the boat was filling with water, and they were in danger. They went to him and woke him up, shouting, 'Master, Master, we are perishing!' And he woke up and rebuked the wind and the raging waves; they ceased, and there was a calm. He said to them, 'Where is your faith?' They were afraid and amazed, and said to one another, 'Who then is this, that he commands even the winds and the water, and they obey him?' [Luke 8: 22-25]

For our prayers

Those who are ill: Terry Harding, David Stone, Vincent Tweed, Betty Beddows, Joan Mason, Dawn Bradford's sister Gill and all who are living with long term illnesses or health problems.

Those who mourn, and those who have died.

Those in our parishes: all who are isolated and lonely, the ill and bereaved; all who need perseverance and resilience; staff and patients in Ross Community Hospital; schools, head teachers, teachers and students; businesses in Ross and around; those working for the prosperity and cohesion of the community.

In the World-Wide Anglican Cycle of Prayer – The Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia.

Letter from Sean

It is difficult to describe how special last week's final services and celebration of ministry were for my family and me. Thank you to all who came from both the parishes and the community – St Mary's was full, but instead of seeing a crowd, I was so aware of individuals and families, and the journeys that I have shared with you during the last five years. The "It's your life" reflection on my incumbency that followed was superbly curated and presented by Mark Sanderson and Rachel Lewis – so many memories that we could laugh over and also ones that brought tears to our eyes. We are extremely grateful for your generous gifts and especially the painting of St Mary's by parishioner David Hughes. It will hang prominently in the Bishop's House in Nicosia! Thank you to all who provided and served the excellent lunch that brought the farewell and my ministry among you to an end. We felt overwhelmingly loved and appreciated.

We leave the benefice and community blessed by you, full of memories that will sustain us and provide the basis for many wonderful recollections, including possibly even the occasional pulpit story! With our love and prayers, Sean, Jenny, Lex, and family.

News from the Parishes

St George's Day, Tuesday 23rd April - St David's Day recently drew a substantial congregation to Walford Church, in full voice! England has a patron saint too, and we plan to mark St George's Day with Evening Prayer, great hymns and a party at Walford, at 6.30pm. A flag will fly from the tower, and we will pray for our King, our nation, and our future in uncertain times.

First Wednesdays @ 1, Free lunchtime concerts – April-October, quite informal, with tables available to eat lunch. Please spread the word and come along if you're free. Full programme at rossparishes.uk/lunchtime-concerts

Confirmation - teens and adult groups It's wonderful that so many of our young people (from all three of our parishes) are keen to explore confirmation this year. Our Grow Confirmation Group will be starting on the first Sunday in May, preparing for the confirmation service on Sunday 6 October at the 9.30am All Age Eucharist in St Mary's. There will also be an opportunity for adult confirmation preparation. Please let Rachael in the office know if you are interested- or speak to any of the clergy or readers.

LifeLink News! Through our deanery schools network (started as part of the LifeLink Project) this year nearly every Year 6 pupil in our deanery will be given a copy of "Its Your Move", a wonderful, supportive, guide to moving up to secondary school, written by Scripture Union. We will also be there to welcome those going to John Kyrle School on their induction day, and we're making links with other local secondary schools too. We are hard at work with the diocese and the school on the LifeLink Chaplaincy job description ready to advertise soon! Deanery funding is continuing to come in - as well as churches we have angel and local organisations contributing - huge thanks for example to Llangarron Parish (civil) Council who have just made a generous donation.

Please give thanks and keep praying for the growing ways we are linking school + church + homelife here in the Ross Parishes and deanery. Caroline. Caroline@rossparishes.uk

Safari Supper – Regrettably, this has been postponed, due to a lack of volunteer hosts.

Bishop's Year of Faith teaching morning at St Mary's Saturday 11 May 9.30am-1.00pm.

Bishop Richard will be leading a morning in our deanery as part of the Year of Faith and we are hosting it! Come and spend time with our bishop, be inspired to grow in confidence in your faith and help give everyone visiting a big Ross Parishes' welcome!

There will be a teaching session with the bishop and seminars to choose from.

Places must be booked in advance either through Rachael in the office (01989 562175) or book online at: www.hereford.anglican.org/calendar/732

St Mary's APCM Reports – Please could the coordinators of all groups at St Mary's send a report for the APCM which will be printed in a booklet as usual.

The APCM is on Tuesday 21st May but in order to collate and print the booklets I need reports for 2023 (and vision for 2024 if you wish), by Friday 26th April. Please send them to rachel@rossparishes.uk. Thank you, Rachel Lewis, PCC Secretary.

This week in the Ross Parishes

Every day	9.00am - Morning Prayer by Zoom, rossparishes.uk/morning-prayer
Tues 16th	9.00am-11.00am - Tea & Toast and Community Larder, St Mary's Hall
Weds 17th	8.45am-10.15am Toast & Toddle, St Mary's 11.00am APCM Brampton Abbots, BA Village Hall 1.30pm Contemplative Prayer, contact freda@rossparishes.uk 3.30pm Ponder & Pray, contact freda@rossparishes.uk
Thurs 18th	10.00am - Eucharist, Markye Chapel, St Mary's 11.45am - St Mary's Thursday Prayer group by Zoom, rossparishes.uk/worship/prayer
Fri 19th	9.30am-11.30am Paddle & Praise, contact mandwalston@btinternet.com 6.30pm Youth Choir 7.00pm-8.00pm – Choir Practice
Sun 21st	8.00am Holy Communion, St Mary's 9.30am Sung Eucharist, St Mary's 9.30am Morning Prayer, St Michael's, Walford

Further ahead

23rd April	2.30pm-4.00pm - Just B (Bereavement Group), St Mary's 6.30pm - St George's Day service, St Michael's, Walford
1st May	1.00pm - Lunchtime Concert with Northwick Consort, St Mary's 1.45pm - Mother's Union, St Mary's Hall
2nd May	3.45pm-5.00pm – Messy Church, St Mary's
12th -18th May	Christian Aid Week
Tues 21st May	7.00pm - St Mary's APCM, St Mary's

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