

**The Stratfield Mortimer Benefice  
of  
St Saviour              St Mary and St John              St John the Baptist  
Mortimer West End      Stratfield Mortimer              Padworth  
St Mary's Church of England School      St John's Church of England School  
Diocese of Oxford**



**'The Resurrection'**  
From the West Window at St Saviour's, Mortimer West End.

# **The Easter Day Eucharist Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> April 2021 at 10.00 a.m.**

**Online at zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6931233940>**

## **Happy and Blessed Easter**

**Prayer Thought: This Easter Day Eucharist is our 'Alleluia' - our song of praise to the risen Christ - as we celebrate the Gospel message of the ultimate triumph of self-giving love over fear, pride, sin and death. This is the Gospel, the Good News, that we are called upon to celebrate and share with our families, our friends, our communities and all the world. God bless.**

# The Eucharist for Easter Day

*The present rules and guidelines about attendance, singing & speaking in churches will be followed carefully. This Easter Sunday only the priest and the zoom operator can be at St John's church building.*

## HYMN

**Jesus Christ is risen today, Alleluia!  
Our triumphant holy day, Alleluia!  
Who did once, upon the cross, Alleluia!  
Suffer to redeem our loss, Alleluia!**  
  
**Hymns of praise then let us sing, Alleluia!  
Unto Christ, our heavenly King, Alleluia!  
Who endured the cross and grave, Alleluia!  
Sinners to redeem and save, Alleluia!**

## THE GATHERING

Priest      In the name of God - the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.  
All          **Amen.**

*The priest will introduce this Easter Day Eucharist.*

## THE GREETING

*The greeting proclaims the presence of the Lord with us. The Penitential Rite, the Gloria and the Opening Prayer follow. The purpose of these preliminary rites is to help the people, gathered for the celebration of the Eucharist, to join with each other as a worshipping community, and to prepare to listen to the Word of God and to celebrate the Eucharist - the Great Thanksgiving.*

All          The Lord be with you  
**And also with you.**  
All          Alleluia. Christ is risen.  
All          **He is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

## PRAYERS OF PENITENCE

*We call to mind our sins to repent of them / turn from them and to ask forgiveness of God and each other.*

*The Invitation to Confession*

Priest      My brothers and sisters, as we come together as God's family to celebrate the Easter mysteries, let us ask with confidence the Father's forgiveness for our sins, for he is full of gentleness and compassion.

*A pause for silent reflection follows.*

All          **I confess to almighty God,  
and to you, my brothers and sisters,  
that I have sinned through my own fault,  
in my thoughts and in my words,  
in what I have done and in what I have failed to do.**

*The Absolution*

+ Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you your sins, and bring you to everlasting life.

All          **Amen.**

## THE GLORIA

**Gloria, gloria, in excelsis Deo.  
Gloria, gloria, in excelsis Deo.**

**Glory to God in the highest,  
and peace to his people on earth.  
Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,  
we worship you, we give you thanks,  
we praise you for your glory.  
Gloria, gloria, in excelsis Deo.  
Gloria, gloria, in excelsis Deo.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,  
Lord God, Lamb of God,  
you take away the sins of the world:  
have mercy on us;  
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:  
receive our prayer.  
*Gloria, gloria, in excelsis Deo.*  
*Gloria, gloria, in excelsis Deo.***

**For you alone are the Holy One,  
you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,  
with the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.  
*Gloria, gloria, in excelsis Deo.*  
*Gloria, gloria, in excelsis Deo.***

## THE COLLECT

Priest Let us pray that the risen Christ will raise us up and renew our lives.

*Together we spend a few moments in silence, realising, and giving thanks, that we are in the presence of God our Father to whom we make our prayers. The priest 'collects' our prayerful thoughts this Eastertide 2021.*

Priest 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 rise with him in glory; to whom with you and the Holy Spirit be praise and honour, glory and might, now and in all eternity.

All Amen.

## THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

*The Liturgy of the Word consists of readings from the scriptures; a sermon/homily, which expounds the readings; the Profession of Faith, which is the Creed of God's people; and the Prayer of the Faithful or General Intercessions in which the people of God intercede for all humankind and all creation.*

*In the Liturgy of the Word God speaks to us of redemption and salvation and nourishes us with his 'word.' We are not only listening to past history. The God who speaks to Israel and to the early Church speaks to us today through the power of the Holy Spirit working within us as we listen to him and as he reveals the pattern for our lives. 'The word of God is something alive and active: it cuts like any double edged sword but more finely...it can judge the secret emotions and thoughts' (The Letter to the Hebrews 4:12).*

## THE FIRST READING - THE ACTS OF THE APOSTLES 10: 34, 37-43. - Read by Gwen Adshead

Reader A reading from The Acts of the Apostles.

Peter addressed Cornelius and his household: 'You must have heard about the recent happenings in Judaea; about Jesus of Nazareth and how he began in Galilee, after John had been preaching baptism. God had anointed him with the Holy Spirit and with power, and because God was with him, Jesus went about doing good and curing all who had fallen into the power of the devil. Now I, and those with me, can witness to everything he did throughout the countryside of Judaea and in Jerusalem itself: and also to the fact that they killed him by hanging him on a tree, yet three days afterwards God raised him to life and allowed him to be seen, not by the whole people but only by certain witnesses that God had chosen beforehand.'

Now we are those witnesses - we have eaten and drunk with him after his resurrection from the dead - and he has ordered us to proclaim this to his people and to tell them that God has anointed him to judge everyone, alive or dead. It is to him that all the prophets bear this witness: that all who believe in Jesus will have their sins forgiven through his name.'

*At the end of the reading:*

Reader This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

## THE EASTER ANTHEMS

Christ our passover is sacrificed for us:  
therefore let us keep the feast;

Not with the old leaven, nor with the leaven of malice and wickedness:  
but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.

Christ being raised from the dead dieth no more:  
death hath no more dominion over him.

For in that he died, he died unto sin once :  
but in that he liveth, he liveth unto God.

Likewise reckon ye also yourselves to be dead indeed unto sin:  
but alive unto God, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Christ is risen from the dead:  
and become the first fruits of them that slept.

For since by man came death:  
by man came also the resurrection of the dead.

For as in Adam all die:  
even so in Christ shall all be made alive.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son: and to the Holy Ghost;  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be:  
world without end. Amen.

Cantor	Laudate Dominum, Laudate Dominum, Omnes gentes, alleluia!	<i>Psalm 117 - The Community of Taizé</i>
All	<b>Laudate Dominum, Laudate Dominum,</b> Omnes gentes, alleluia!	

*Now we hear the Gospel (the Good News) and acknowledge that we are his people and called to be part of his mission to the world inasmuch as we share his message and his life with faith, hope and love.*

## THE GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

Jesus said, 'I am the resurrection and the life.'

*John 11.25,26*

Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live,  
and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die.'

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

## THE GOSPEL READING - ST JOHN'S GOSPEL 1: 1-18.

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

All He is risen indeed. Alleluia.

The Lord be with you.

All And also with you .

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

All Glory to you, O Lord.

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, 'They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him.' Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went toward the tomb. The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, and the cloth that had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. Then the disciples returned to their homes. But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. They said to her, 'Woman, why are you weeping?' She said to them, 'They

have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him.' When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to her, 'Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you looking for?' Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, 'Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away.' Jesus said to her, 'Mary!' She turned and said to him in Hebrew, 'Rabbouni!' (which means Teacher). Jesus said to her, 'Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brethren and say to them, "I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God." Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, 'I have seen the Lord'; and she told them that he had said these things to her.

*At the end of the Gospel*

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**All Praise to you, O Christ.**

Cantor      Laudate Dominum, Laudate Dominum,  
                 Omnes gentes, alleluia!

**All Laudate Dominum, Laudate Dominum,  
                 Omnes gentes, alleluia!**

## THE SERMON

*We are a Eucharistic community in word and sacrament. Through the readings God has spoken to his people of his redeeming love and of the nourishment which his Spirit gives. Our priest now reflects with us on the readings of the day relating them to our Eucharistic celebration and to our ordinary life.*

*After the sermon there is a short period of silent reflection.*

## THE PROFESSION OF CHRISTIAN FAITH - THE CREED

*We make the profession of faith in response to the word of God written in the Gospels and spoken in the sermon. We testify that God is our Father who gives us new life through his Son and who calls us together in the power of his Spirit to be a Eucharistic people, a 'thanksgiving people', a living community of his abiding self-giving love.*

**All We believe and trust in God the Father who made the world.**

**We believe and trust in his Son, Jesus Christ, who redeemed the world.**

**We believe and trust in the Holy Spirit who gives life to the people of God. Amen**

## THE PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL OR GENERAL INTERCESSION

*We are invited to pray for the needs of the Church's mission and for all people. Through baptism we have been made one with Christ, our great high priest, and we share in his intercessions before the Father for the needs of his Church and of all people. Our intercessions flow from our listening to the Gospel and sermon by which we have been made more aware of our Christian commitment.*

*This Prayer of the Faithful, or General Intercession, is announced and consists of a series of intercessions; we pray for the universal Church and its mission and for our bishop and for our benefice - our parishes and our two Church schools; for the world, for our Queen and country, for our local communities, families and friends; for the sick and suffering and for all in pain; for the departed. And in communion with Mary, St John the Evangelist, St John the Baptist and all the Saints of God we entrust one another and all people and all creation to God's saving love.*

Priest:      In the power of the Holy Spirit and in union with the Risen Christ, let us pray to the Father.

*The deacon or minister continues:*

Heavenly Father, we praise you for the resurrection of Our Lord Jesus Christ. Shed the light of the Risen Christ on all the world and give us grace to live to proclaim the triumph of his Gospel of love. We pray your blessing on Justin our Archbishop, Steven our Bishop and Olivia our area Bishop, and the mission and ministry of your Church in this benefice - our parishes and our schools of St Mary's and St John's.

Lord, in your mercy,  
**Hear our prayer.**

Heavenly Father, bless and guide Elizabeth our Queen, our Government and District and Village Councils, and give grace to all in authority that they may govern with justice, wisdom and compassion and seek the common good.

Lord, in your mercy,  
**Hear our prayer.**

Heavenly Father, bless our families and friends and all those you have given us to care for. May our love for one another witness to the risen Christ.

Lord, in your mercy,  
**Hear our prayer.**

Heavenly Father, we pray to you for all who suffer in body, mind or spirit... May the love of the Risen Christ bring them comfort and the hope of the resurrection give them peace.

Lord, in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

Heavenly Father, we remember before you all who have gone before us in the hope of the resurrection... We pray that we may be united for ever in the joy of heaven.

Lord, in your mercy

**Hear our prayer.**

Heavenly Father, we rejoice in the communion of Mary, the Mother of our Lord, John the Evangelist, John the Baptist and all your Saints, and we commend all creation to your unfailing love.

Priest            Merciful Father

All                **Accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, Our Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen.**

### **THE LITURGY OF THE HOLY EUCHARIST**

*At the Last Supper Christ 'took some bread and when he had given thanks, broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying "This is my body which will be given for you; do this in remembrance of me". He did the same with the cup...' (Luke 22:19-20). The Church, joyfully obedient to the Lord's command, celebrates the Eucharist taking care that our 'liturgy' corresponds to the words and actions of Christ: 1) Taking bread and wine - we take our own gifts to the Altar, such as our time and talents and our money for the poor and for ministry. 2) Giving thanks (the meaning of the word Eucharist) - in the Eucharistic Prayer the priest, in the name of us all, says the great hymn of our thanksgiving to God for the whole work of salvation, in which the offerings become the Body and Blood of Christ. 3) The breaking of the one bread is a sign of the unity of the faithful – a sign of the unity which comes through sharing in Christ. 4) And in Holy Communion we receive Christ. In this way, Sunday by Sunday and day by day, the Church tries to carry out what the Lord asked his disciples to do in remembrance of him.*

### **THE PEACE**

*We acknowledge and give thanks for our unity with one another in Jesus Christ our Lord, which his death and resurrection have brought to us. He is the peace between us. The sign of peace echoes Christ's own resurrection greeting to his disciples. Before we share in the same bread we express our love for one another in Christ and pray for peace and unity (cf Luke 1.78,79).*

Priest            The risen Christ came and stood among his disciples and said, 'Peace be with you'.

Then were they glad when they saw the Lord.

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

All                **He is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

All                **And also with you.**

### **THE PREPARATION OF THE ALTAR**

*The peoples' gifts of bread and wine are brought to the altar. The offerings of money is made and promised to support the wider ministry and work of the Church.*

### **OFFERTORY HYMN**

The day of resurrection! Earth, tell it out abroad;  
The Passover of gladness, the Passover of God.  
From death to life eternal, from earth unto the sky,  
Our Christ hath brought us over, with hymns of victory.

Our hearts be pure from evil, that we may see aright  
The Lord in rays eternal of resurrection light;  
And listening to His accents, may hear, so calm and plain,  
His own 'All hail!' and, hearing, may raise the victor strain.

Now let the heavens be joyful! Let earth the song begin!  
Let the round world keep triumph, and all that is therein!  
Let all things seen and unseen their notes in gladness blend,  
For Christ the Lord hath risen, our joy that hath no end.

*Taking the Gifts: We give thanks to God for the gifts in the following words.*

Priest

**BREAD**

Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation. Through your goodness we have this bread to offer, which earth has given and human hands have made. It will become for us the bread of life.

All

**Blessed be God for ever.**

**WINE**

Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation. Through your goodness we have this wine to offer, fruit of the vine and work of human hands. It will become for us the cup of salvation.

All

**Blessed be God for ever.**

**OUR TIME, TALENTS AND TREASURE/MONEY**

Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation. Through your goodness we have the gifts of our time, talents and money to offer. May our offerings of our gifts be a sincere sign of our gratitude and our dedication to your service.

All

**Blessed be God for ever.**

*The priest prays quietly: Lord God, we ask you to receive us and be pleased with the sacrifice we offer you with humble, contrite and thankful hearts. The priest washes hands as an expression of the desire for inward purification, praying quietly: Lord, wash away my iniquity; cleanse me from my sin.*

**PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS**

Priest

Pray my brothers and sisters, that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the Almighty Father.

All

**May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for the praise and glory of his name, for our good, and the good of all his Church.**

Priest

Amen.

Lord Jesus Christ, make yourself known in the breaking of bread.

All

**Amen.**

**THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER**

*The Eucharistic Prayer is the centre and high point of the whole Christian celebration. This great prayer of praise and thanksgiving proclaims the wonderful works of God and through it we join ourselves with Christ in praise and thanksgiving to God the Father and in offering ourselves to him in union with Christ's self-offering on the cross. We express our share in the prayer, which is said by the priest on behalf of all the people, by listening inwardly and joining in the acclamations (joyful shouts or songs) and the Sanctus (the Holy, Holy, Holy which concludes the preface), the memorial acclamation and the great 'Amen' which concludes our Eucharistic Prayer.*

Priest

The Lord be with you.

All

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

All

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All

**It is right to give thanks and praise.**

*The Preface praises God for his mighty acts:*

Father, all-powerful and ever-living God,

we do well always and everywhere to give you thanks  
through Jesus Christ Our Lord.

We praise you with greater joy than ever on Easter Day,  
when Christ became our Paschal sacrifice.

He is the true Lamb who took away the sins of the world.

By dying he destroyed our death; by rising he restored our life.

And so, with all the choirs of angels in heaven we proclaim your glory  
and join in their unending hymn of praise:

*The Acclamation*

All

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,**

**God of power and might,**

**heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

*We pray to the Father for the sending down of the Holy Spirit and recall the Lord's Supper.*

Priest We thank you, loving Father, because when we turned away you sent to us your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. He gave his life for us upon the cross. He shows us the way to live.

Send your Holy Spirit that these gifts of bread and wine may be for us Christ's body and his blood. On the night before he died, when darkness had fallen, Jesus took bread. He gave thanks, broke it, and shared it with his disciples, saying:

‘This is my body, given for you. Do this to remember me.’

After they had eaten he took the cup of wine, gave thanks, and shared it with his disciples, saying:

‘This is my blood, poured out for you and for many, for the forgiveness of sins.  
Do this to remember me.’

So, Father, with this bread and this cup we celebrate his love, his death, his risen life.

As you feed us with these gifts, send your Holy Spirit upon us and change us more and more to be like Jesus our Saviour. Help us, Father, to love one another, as we look forward to that day when suffering is ended and all creation is gathered in your loving arms.

And now with Mary, John the Evangelist, John the Baptist, and all your saints, we give you glory, through Jesus Christ and in the strength of your Holy Spirit, today and for ever.

All

Amen.

## HOLY COMMUNION

*The communion rite lays strong emphasis on peace, unity and our prayer for forgiveness. We come together to the Lord's table in accordance with the Lord's command, 'Take, eat... take, drink', as a community bound together by the love of God manifest in Christ. We can all be confident in Christ's mercy as we respond to his call to come to his table. Our communal recitation of the Lord's Prayer - the prayer he taught us - prepares us for Holy Communion with our Lord.*

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

Priest Let us pray with confidence to the Father in the words our Saviour gave us:

All **Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name;  
thy kingdom come;  
thy will be done; on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation;  
but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.**

## THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

*The priest takes the host and breaks it over the cup, praying quietly: 'May this mingling of the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ bring eternal life to us who receive it.' 'Because there is one bread, we who are many are one body, for we all partake of the one bread' (1 Corinthians 10:17) Christ's gesture of breaking bread with his disciples at the Last Supper gave the Eucharist the name of the 'breaking of bread'. This gesture signifies that we who share one bread and one cup are made one. The breaking of the Eucharistic bread becomes a sign of unity and charity as the one bread is distributed to the family of God's people.*

Priest We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

All **Though we are many, we are one body, because we all share in one bread.**

*The priest prepares quietly for Holy Communion. We may all join quietly in this prayer: Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the living God, by the will of the Father and the work of the Holy Spirit your death brought life to the world. By your holy body and blood free me from all my sins and from every evil. Keep me faithful to your teaching, and never let me be parted from you.*

## PREPARATION FOR HOLY COMMUNION

Priest Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. *cf. John 1: 29*

Blessed are those who are called to his supper.

All **Lord, I am not worthy to receive you, but only say the word, and I shall be healed.**

*The sign of communion is more complete when given under both 'kinds' since then the sign of the eucharistic meal appears more clearly. However, we live in exceptional times when communion can only be given in one 'kind' when we can come to church.*

*The priest takes the host, raises it a little and shows it saying: The Body of Christ. And the same with the cup saying: The Blood of Christ. When receiving Holy Communion the response and assent to Christ is:*

**+ Amen.**

## THE ANTHEM DURING HOLY COMMUNION

*'Ave Maria'*

*After Holy Communion we may keep a further period of silence.*

## PRAYER AFTER HOLY COMMUNION

Priest Let us pray

*The priest invites us all to pray that the Holy Eucharist will have its effect in transforming our lives and bring us all to God's kingdom. We pray together silently for a while before the Post Communion prayer.*

Priest 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.

All Amen.

## THE NOTICES FOR THE COMMUNITY ARE GIVEN.

## THE CONCLUDING RITE

Priest Alleluia. Christ is risen.

All **He is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

The Lord be with you.

All **and also with you.**

## THE BLESSING

Priest God, the Father, by whose love Christ was raised from the dead, open to you the gates of everlasting life.

All Amen.

God the Son, who in conquering death has won a glorious victory, give you joy as you share the Easter faith.

All Amen.

God the Holy Spirit, whom the risen Lord breathed into his disciples, empower you for God's service and fill you with Christ's peace.

All Amen.

+ And the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.

All Amen.

Go in the peace of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia.

All **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.**

## HYMN

**Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son;  
Endless is the victory, thou o'er death hast won;  
Angels in bright raiment rolled the stone away,  
Kept the folded grave clothes where thy body lay.**

*Thine be the glory, risen conquering Son,  
Endless is the vict'ry, thou o'er death hast won.*

**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 hath lost its sting.**

*Thine be the glory, risen conquering Son,  
Endless is the vict'ry, thou o'er death hast won.*

**HAPPY AND BLESSED EASTER**

