



Welcome to the Parish Church of St Stephen

Sunday 5th April 2026

Easter Sunday

**Alleluia - Christ is Risen!
He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**



Laudate Dominum, Laudate Dominum omnes gentes, Alleluia!
Laudate Dominum, Laudate Dominum omnes gentes, Alleluia!

Start of the Procession

Let us proceed in peace

In the Name of Christ. Amen

Blessing of the Easter Tomb

Almighty God, by your Blessing of this Garden may we who have prepared it in celebration of his victory be strengthened in faith, know the power of his presence, and rejoice in the hope of eternal glory, for he is alive and reigns for ever and ever.

Amen.

End of the Procession

The Lord is risen from the tomb, Alleluia, Alleluia.

Who for our sake hung upon the tree, Alleluia, Alleluia.

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.**

683 Easter Day

Introit I am risen, and am still with thee, alleluia; thou hast laid thine hand upon me, alleluia. Thy knowledge is too wonderful and excellent for me. Alleluia, alleluia **Psalm** O Lord, thou hast searched me out, and known me: thou knowest my down-sitting, and mine up-rising. Glory be...

Gradual This is the day which the Lord hath made: we will be joyful and glad in it. O give thanks unto the Lord, for he is gracious: and his mercy endureth forever. **Alleluia** Alleluia. Alleluia. *V.* Christ our Passover: is sacrificed for us.

Offertory The earth trembled and was still: when God arose to judgement, alleluia.

Communion Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us, alleluia: therefore let us keep the feast with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Services Today

9:30am Said Mass with Children's Church

11:00am Sung Mass with Procession

Hymns: 'Hail Festal Day' (On Sheet):

Responsorial Psalm 118: 105: 104 Omit*: 110

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.

First reading Acts Ch10 v34-43

³⁴ Then Peter began to speak: 'I now realise how true it is that God does not show favouritism ³⁵ but accepts from every nation the one who fears him and does what is right. ³⁶ You know the message God sent to the people of Israel, announcing the good news of peace through Jesus Christ, who is Lord of all. ³⁷ You know what has happened throughout the province of Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John preached – ³⁸ how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and power, and how he went around doing good and healing all who were under the power of the devil, because God was with him. ³⁹ 'We are witnesses of everything he did in the country of the Jews and in Jerusalem. They killed him by hanging him on a cross, ⁴⁰ but God raised him from the dead on the third day and caused him to be seen. ⁴¹ He was not seen by all the people, but by witnesses whom God had already chosen – by us who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. ⁴² He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one whom God appointed as judge of the living and the dead. ⁴³ All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins

Responsorial Psalm 118: 'O give thanks to the Lord for he is good'

Second Reading Colossians Ch3 v 1-4

Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. **2** Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things. **3** For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God. **4** When Christ, who is your life, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.

Gospel - John Ch 20 v 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 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.

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.

Please remember in your prayers

Fr John & Carol Luff, Willa Owen, Jill Stephenson, Margaret Morris, David and Barbara Streek, Wendy Clamp, Mandy Le Tissier, Margaret Boden Heaume, Lindsay Gallagher, Barbara Renouf, Peter Le Page and Helen Sheppard

NOTICES

Monday to Friday 8.00am - Morning Prayer

Tuesday 7th April 11.00am - Said Mass

Saturday 11th April 10.00am - Coffee and Chat in Church

Sunday 12th April 2026

EASTER 2

9.30am Said Mass with Children's Church

11.00am Sung Mass with Procession

A BIG
Thank
YOU

**TO ALL THOSE WHO HELPED
TO MAKE THE CHURCH LOOK
SPECIAL AND SPARKLING FOR
EASTER**



TUESDAY 14TH APRIL
12PM

Friendship Lunch

**Quiche Lorraine or
Roasted Pepper Quiche**
served with salads & french loaf

**Pistachio, Passion Fruit &
Raspberry Pavlova**

Special dietary requirements catered for
£10.00

RSVP: Jill Mabire or Aileen Thompson
by Sunday 12th April
Tel: 01481 720 268

Please join us for refreshments

In the Vestry after the 11am Mass

After Mass please put the kneelers back on the shelf. Thank you!

Deadline for notices for next bulletin – **6.00pm Thursday**

To Fliss or email fml397026@aol.com

From a Church Bulletin:-

This being Easter Sunday, we will ask Mrs Lewis to come forward and lay an egg on the alter.