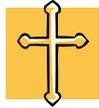


# Tyndale Benefice



Wotton-under-Edge with Ozleworth  
North Nibley, Alderley (including Tresham)

Sunday, 12<sup>th</sup> April 2020  
Easter Day

**No Services in the Tyndale Benefice  
until further notice**

**All church buildings are now CLOSED**

## **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.

*or*

God of glory,  
by the raising of your Son  
you have broken the chains of death and hell:  
fill your Church with faith and hope;  
for a new day has dawned  
and the way to life stands open  
in our Saviour Jesus Christ.

## **Principal Readings:**

**First Reading:** *Acts 10: 34-43*

Then Peter began to speak to them: 'I truly understand that God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. He commanded us

to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.'

**2<sup>nd</sup> Reading:** *Colossians 3: 1-4*

So if you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth, for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.

**Gospel:** *John 20: 1-18*

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 towards 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 round and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to her, 'Woman, why are you weeping? For whom are you looking?' 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 brothers 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.

## **For your prayers:**

Please pray for:

- The World and its needs
- The Church and her life
- Those who are ill in body, mind or spirit
- Ourselves

## **For those who are ill**

Merciful God,  
we entrust to your tender care  
those who are ill or in pain,  
knowing that whenever danger threatens  
your everlasting arms are there to hold them safe.  
Comfort and heal them,  
and restore them to health and strength;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

This month St. Mary's is being remembered in the town's prayers.

## **Thoughts for Good Friday, Easter Saturday and Easter Day 2020**

These reflections are based on the last 3 Stations of the Cross from the Iona Community's *Eggs and Ashes* by Ruth Burgess. I have fitted a theme of Lament, Hope and Witness to the three stations, as I feel Lent leads itself along this path to the goal of Easter and this allows some contemporary experience to be part of each meditation.

### **Lament**

***Bible reading Mark 15: 42-46***

#### ***Meditation***

Pieta.

Jesus is dead and lies in the arms of his mother.  
Death is hard and final  
and yet, whatever happens on this earth,  
children never die to their families,  
parents remain in the memory of those who loved them,  
loved ones remain in our hearts.

And for us, and for all God's people,  
our hope is safe in God.

From swaddling bands to grave clothes,  
all the days of our living and dying,  
we are cradled and wrapped in love.

Whatever this crisis brings, we will survive it. We are programmed to live out our days in little acts of the everyday and in small services of kindness. A third of the world may be in its house, but we are still part of that whole world. Lament the present necessity but do not despair.

*Prayer*

For our families and friends who have died,  
For ourselves as we carry their stories:  
God in your mercy,  
Hear our prayer.

### **Hope**

***Bible reading Mark 15: 46-47***

#### ***Meditation***

The door is shut now, and the world sighs and waits.  
And we wait in night's darkness, longing for the morning,

longing for the light and the way forward.

The irony of sacrifice is that out of such sorrow good may still come.

'Over in America, some of those who had previously been among the fiercest opponents of socialised medicine, have started to appreciate – albeit reluctantly – that someone might have the best personal health care plan money can buy, but it won't protect them from a virus that is freely circulating within a population that has no access to affordable health care.' (Giles Fraser in *Church Times* 130320)

*Prayer*

For all who are waiting,  
For all who are longing for light:  
God in your mercy,  
Hear our prayer.

### **Witness**

***Bible reading Mark 16: 1-7***

#### ***Meditation***

We are not alone.

We are Easter people who believe love conquers death.  
In that witnessing we can offer something in this unfamiliar situation.

*Prayer*

We go on our way

and Jesus goes ahead of us.

We do not need to be afraid, for Jesus is risen.

God is love – and love is more powerful than fear or death or sickness or evil.

And we are greatly loved.

And we are grateful.

Thanks be to God for redeeming the world through love.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

In the name of Christ

Alleluia and Amen.

Love and God bless and Happy Easter,

**Sue**

## **\*\*\*\*\* Notices \*\*\*\*\***

**Holy Week reflections** – the Diocese team have been putting some live streams on the their website - <https://www.gloucester.anglican.org/about-us/christian-faith-what-we-believe/easter/>

**Bishop Rachel** will be live streaming an Easter Eucharist from the chapel in BishopsCourt along with her Easter sermon. 7am via Zoom – please check the website for details (as above)

## **A selection of Easter related television & radio broadcasts:**

### Good Friday

- Heavenly Gardens – BBC1 at 1.40pm.  
Alexander Armstrong visits 6 gardens steeped in faith and spirituality
- At the Foot of the Cross, Radio 2 at 7pm. A dramatic retelling of the Crucifixion by Frank Cotterell-Boyle

### Easter Saturday

- Easter from Kings, Cambridge – BBC2 at 7pm

### Easter Day

- Sunrise Service – BBC Radio 4 at 6.35am
- 0Sunday Worship – BBC Radio 4 at 8.10am.  
With Archbishop of Canterbury
- Songs of Praise – BBC1 at 1.15pm
- The 3 Vicars – BBC Radio 4 at 1.30pm. Revd Richard Coles, Kate Bottley and Giles Fraser talking about all things Easter
- Words and music – BBC Radio 3 at 5.30pm. A celebration of prose and poetry

**Live Services from the BBC** – BBC Radio 4's daily service is live at 9.45am on BBC Radio 4 LW (long wave) or on the DAB side channel.

Live on Sunday is streamed at 8.10am each Sunday morning.

Songs of Praise is aired on BBC1 on Sunday at 1.15pm

## **The Benefice Home Office**

Emails are checked daily ([wotvicsec@btconnect.com](mailto:wotvicsec@btconnect.com))

If you would like to get in touch by phone – ring the office mobile on 07483 146531

**Daily Prayer** - for the world, the church, and those who are unwell - will still be said at 9.00, by individuals in their own homes

**Prayer and digital resources available** – if you would like any sent to you email [wotvicsec@btconnect.com](mailto:wotvicsec@btconnect.com) or visit the website [wottonparishchurch.org.uk](http://wottonparishchurch.org.uk)

**Wotton Area Mutual Aid Group** – is matching up people in Wotton and surrounding villages who need some help, with neighbours who are willing to give it. If you need help either ring 07545 042794 or go to <https://buff.ly/394Hz18>  
If anyone can volunteer to give the help ring 07545 042794 or go to <https://buff.ly/2WB2PA7>

## **The Tyndale Benefice - A Prayer for the Vacancy**

Gracious God,

We thank you for this Benefice and for each parish within it,  
for its homes and businesses, schools, communities and meeting places,  
and for all those who live, work, play and worship here. We ask that you will help us to share responsibility during the vacancy,  
to support our Church Wardens,  
to grow in faith, and to care for those in need. We ask you to guide those who are seeking the right person for us,  
and those who are seeking the right place for their ministry,  
that together we may discover your way for our future and see your kingdom grow. Through Christ our Lord,  
Amen.

### **Benefice/Parish Office:**

07483 146531

### **Wotton Churchwardens numbers:**

Jackie Excell – 07863 121613

Douglas Hinton – 07415 541359