



Welcome to St Mary's Church

Following Christ, serving you

SUNDAY SERVICES 21st April 2024

8.00am

HOLY COMMUNION

10:15am

PARISH COMMUNION

**Anthem: The Lord is My Shepherd
(Goodall)**

Hymns: 145, 594, 149, 612

6:00pm

CHORAL EVENSONG

**Anthem: O Praise the Lord (Batten)
Loving Shepherd of Thy sheep
(Rutter)**

Psalm 81 v.8-16, Hymns 159, 148

4TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Almighty God, whose Son Jesus Christ is the resurrection and the life: raise us, who trust in him, from the death of sin to the life of righteousness, that we may seek those things which are above, where he reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

First Reading – Acts 4:5-12

The next day their rulers, elders, and scribes assembled in Jerusalem, with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. When they had made the prisoners stand in their midst, they inquired, 'By what power or by what name did you do this?' Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, 'Rulers of the people and elders, if we are questioned today because of a good deed done to someone who was sick and are asked how this man has been healed, let it be known to all of you, and to all the people of Israel, that this man is standing before you in good health by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead. This Jesus is "the stone that was rejected by you, the builders; it has become the cornerstone." There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved.'

Second Reading – I John 3:16-end

We know love by this, that he laid down his life for us—and we ought to lay down our lives for one another. How does God’s love abide in anyone who has the world’s goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help? Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action. And by this we will know that we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts before him whenever our hearts condemn us; for God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before God; and we receive from him whatever we ask, because we obey his commandments and do what pleases him. And this is his commandment, that we should believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. All who obey his commandments abide in him, and he abides in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit that he has given us.

Gospel Reading – John 10:11-18

‘I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away—and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father.’

Post Communion Prayer

Merciful Father, you gave your Son Jesus Christ to be the good shepherd, and in his love for us to lay down his life and rise again: keep us always under his protection, and give us grace to follow in his steps; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Please pray for all preparing for baptism and marriage, those who are sick or in hospital, and those who have died, and all who mourn.

Church Diary

NEXT WEEK'S SERVICES

Monday 9:15am – Morning Prayer

Wednesday 10:00am – Holy Communion

Sunday 28th April – 5th Sunday of Easter

8:00am - Holy Communion

10:15am – Parish Communion

6:00pm – Evening Prayer

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

to help you prepare to worship next Sunday

Acts 8:26-end | 1 John 4:7-end | John 15:1-8

Parish news and notices

A big **thank you** to everyone for all the generous donations of flowers for Easter.

The next **FRIENDSHIP LUNCH** will be held on **FRIDAY, 3RD MAY at 1:00pm** – Gentlemen and Ladies do please come along and join us for a delicious two course lunch and companionship (food and friendship) and why not bring a friend or two along as everyone is welcome! If you would like to join us and/or have any dietary needs, just let us know before Wednesday, 1st May. Please either sign the list at the back of the Church or contact one of the following by telephone: Florence Caley (0208 398 3182) or Diana Jemmett (0208 398 1184). We look forward very much to welcoming you.

Sunday, 5th May there will be a **special Choral Evensong at 6:00pm** in the Church, led by the choir from Guildford Cathedral and their esteemed organist, Katherine Dienes-Williams. Refreshments will be available afterwards in the Hall.

The next **BOOKBOX** event will be on **Wednesday, 15th May at 8pm in the Church**. Doors open at 7:15pm. Bestselling author Victoria Hislop joins us to discuss her new Greek-set novel, *The Figurine*. Victoria will shine a light on the acquisition of cultural treasures and the price people – and countries – will pay to cling onto them. Tickets are £10 and can be bought from Regency Book Shop in Surbiton or through Eventbrite. Copies of Victoria's novel will be available from the Regency Bookshop in Surbiton.