11 April 2021: Second Sunday of Year B

The Parish of East Preston with Kingston

St Mary the Virgin



This will be our last Sunday just being online! From next Sunday (18 April) mass will be back in church: 8am & 10am Sundays; 7pm Tuesdays; 10am Thursdays. The 10am Sunday mass will be live-streamed, incase you can't make it.

Following the death of HRH Prince Philip there is now a "virtual" book of condolence:

https://www.churchofengland.org/remembering-hisroyal-highness-prince-philip We're not sure yet what liturgical provision is likely and at the time of writing there is no firm funeral date.

The last Virtual Coffee Mornings on Zoom will be at 10am on Thurs 15 April. The passwords you need are available from the clergy. You can join by telephone too.

Phyllis, Ann & Olivia write: The Bird family wish to express their sincere thanks to so many people for all the kind expressions of sympathy through cards, flowers, letters and messages of condolence following John's death. We've so appreciated the support of the clergy and the church family at this time and are truly grateful to have been able to celebrate John's life in such a comforting service of thanksgiving.

Several challenges face us as a community here at St Mary's: how we emerge from the Covid lockdowns; new roles needed at the APCM; the financial impact of a year of lockdowns... so we're organising a Day of Prayer to seek God's help and direction. 8.45am -7pm Wed 28 April - see poster for more details.

100 Club: The next 100 Club draw will take place next Sunday. There are six draws per year, each with three prizes: £150, £75, and £25. The subscription is £5.00 per month or £60.00 per annum. The 100 Club raises funds for St Mary's. If you would like to join and be included in the draw, please contact Ann at annridley00@gmail.com or phone 07711 942497.

Congratulation to all those who've been saving pennies during 2020 for the Children's Society. The boxes have been opened and counted and the impressive sum of £852.55 is on its way to helping keep vulnerable children safe. There are a load of boxes to return -

perhaps we could do that on the first Sunday back in church? (hopefully next Sunday).

Fr Andrew is doing a piece of **research** in the parish about whether (& how) online worship has been received during lockdown. As part of this you're invited to fill in a 15 min questionnaire (anonymously if you wish!) - please ask if you've missed this and would like to take part. It's incredibly helpful and huge thanks to those who have helped so far.

This year's Annual Parochial Church Meeting is planned for 12noon on Sun 16 May in church. There are 3 places on the PCC, Lois is stepping down as Church Warden and Kathy is keen to hand over the Treasurer's role - so plenty to get involved with!

We're very grateful to Mike Baldock who has organised the Coffee Rota at St Mary's for many years. Mike's stepping back, so once things return to normal we'll need a new Coffee Champion!

Please remember in your prayers those in special need especially: Gordon; |anet; |une Kirkham; Sue Ralph; Lucy Parkes; Sue Douglas; Angie Jackson; Ruth Sherwin; Lou; Andrew Moore.

We remember those who've died recently: Colin Carter; Philip, Duke of Edinburgh;

and those whose anniversary falls this coming week: Mother Angela, Sisters Ethel-Magdalen & Murriel-Agnes of The Cross; Alice Munro-Pebbles; Tom Clifton; Joan Clifton; Laurence Deeks; Kay Jordan; Marjorie Haines; Elizabeth Knapp; Cuthbert Boole; Julia Cross; Alec Sparkes; Laurence Dunn; John Seymour; David Luscombe: Alan Walker.

Next Sunday's readings (18 April: Easter 3): Acts 3.12-19; I John 3.1-7; Luke 24.36b-48

Rev Emma is on her post-Easter break from Mon 12 April until Sat 17 April.

Using your smartphone this QR code enables you to support St Mary's via a debit or credit card:



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Acts 4.32-35; I John 1.1 - 2.2; John 20.19-end

Collect:

Almighty Father, you have given your only Son to die for our sins and to rise again for our justification: grant us so to put away the leaven of malice and wickedness that we may always serve you in pureness of living and truth: through the merits of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God now and for ever.

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles:

The whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common. With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. There was not a needy person among them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold. They laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

A reading from the first letter of John:

We declare to you what was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the word of life this life was revealed, and we have seen it and testify to it, and declare to you the eternal life that was with the Father and was revealed to us we declare to you what we have seen and heard so that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. We are writing these things so that our joy may be complete.

This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light and in him there is no darkness at all. If we say that we have fellowship with him while we are walking in darkness, we lie and do not do what is true; but if we walk in the light as he himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we

have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; and he is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

A reading from the Gospel of St John:

It was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the lews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained." But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe." Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

Post Communion:

Lord God our Father, through our Saviour Jesus Christ you have assured your children of eternal life and in baptism have made us one with him: deliver us from the death of sin and raise us to new life in your love, in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, by the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ.