

Dear Friends,

We know how much worshippers value their buildings. A whole nation is grieving Notre Dame Cathedral devastated by fire. We join our prayers with the people of France. We give thanks as no one lost their life and pray for the firefighter who was injured. Already plans are being made to rebuild this historic icon. We celebrate today a "rebuilding of the temple" after just three days. After devastation, it may take many years to rebuild lives, this is the hope we have in Jesus Christ, that just when it looked like all was lost, we witnessed new life. May this hope become yours this Easter.

Rev Preb Sharon



He is not here. He is risen!

I heard a wonderful story recently about a Church Sunday School which was putting on a drama telling the story of Holy Week and Easter. All had gone well and the wonderful moment arrived when the angel appeared to the women at the tomb to declare those glorious words: 'He is not here, he is risen.' (Luke 24:6). Unfortunately, five-year-old Brian could not remember what to say, and so the Youth Leader had to quietly remind him of his line. He then confidently grabbed the microphone and triumphantly shouted, 'He's not here; He's in prison!'

As we move this month from Lent into Holy Week and onto Good Friday, I am sure we are all looking forward to Easter Day when we shall once again hear those words ring out 'He is not here, he is risen!' And we shall rejoice and celebrate again the glorious truth that Jesus rose from the dead. Death could not hold him. When Jesus began his ministry in Galilee, he declared that: 'The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to preach good news to the poor, to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to release the oppressed and to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour.' And those words from Isaiah help us understand why Jesus came. He came to proclaim freedom for the prisoner and to release the oppressed. He came that we might 'have life and have it to the full'. He came to release us from our sins and set us free from our fears. He came that we might know God and that through knowing God we might have eternal life. 'I am the resurrection and the life' he said. 'Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die.'

The good news of the Easter message is that although Jesus died upon the cross he rose again and through his resurrection he overcame the power of sin and the sting of death. That is why Paul could write: 'Thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.' (1 Corinthians 15: 57). This Easter let us give thanks that Jesus is not dead. He is not in prison. He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

The Right Revd Peter Hancock
Bishop of Bath and Wells

COLLECTS AND READINGS

21st April Easter Sunday Acts 10.34-43; 1 Corinthians 15.19-26; John 20.1-18

Collect: 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.

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.

28th April 2nd Sunday of Easter Acts 5.27-32; Revelation 1.4-8; Matthew 28.16-20

Collect: Risen Christ, for whom no door is locked, no entrance barred: open the doors of our hearts, that we may seek the good of others and walk the joyful road of sacrifice and peace, to the praise of God the Father.

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.

Our Pastoral Prayers



To include somebody on this prayer list please let Shirley in the office know by 8am on Thursday, making sure the person you wish to be included wants their name in print.

Marriage

Couples recently united, and those preparing for marriage, especially Marie & Cameron, Stuart & Dayna-Rae, Richard and Gemma

Baptisms:

We pray for parents, godparents and those preparing to be baptised, especially for Annabelle who is to be baptised next week.

Those in need of our prayers:

Margaret Moyle, Hazel, Betty Montgomery, Betty Player, Christine Marston, Val & George Crawford Maureen & Ian Thompson

For those who have died: We pray for those who have recently died and their loved ones who grieve their loss.
Pat Davies

Those whose anniversary falls this week:

Lilian Kirwin, Sheila Broadstock, Edna Tate, Joan Abbott

PRAYER FOCUS

Sunday:

May you know the hope of new life

Monday:

For the Servers Guild meeting today

Tuesday:

For the students and teachers of Churchfield School as they spend time in Church this Easter

Wednesday:

For the Annual Meeting tonight

Thursday:

Where there is hatred, let there be love

Friday:

Where there is discord, let there be harmony

Saturday:

Be conscious of a moment today when you may be called to be an answer to prayer.



Easter Displays – I need your help

This week the children from Churchfield School will be coming over to St John's. I am VERY VERY short of helpers. Please can you help for a couple of hours. You will be on one of the displays whilst the children explore them with their teacher.

The timetable for the event is at the back of church. If you can help, please do sign the large sheet at the back of church. We really can't do this without extra help! (*I've already had to adjust what I thought we could do*). Thank you. Rev Sharon

EASTER FAIR

Thank you.... we raised more than expected - nearly £650.

But what we also did was to meet and chat with people we don't see so often, and that is priceless.

Well done everyone.

Service to Celebrate Weston Hospicecare's 30th Anniversary

Weston Hospicecare was founded in 1989 and there is to be a Service of Celebration on Tuesday 30th April in Christ Church, 16 Monptelier, Weston-super-Mare, BS23 2RH at 7.00pm. Anyone is welcome to join us at this Service and to apply for tickets please email (including your postal address) 30thservice@westonhospicecare.org.uk or telephone [01934 423900](tel:01934423900). Seating in the church is limited so tickets will be allocated on a first-come first-served basis. Do come and join us as we recognise and celebrate the work that the Hospice has done over the past 30 years, and continues to do, within our local community.

PLEASE NOTE.....

**THERE WILL NOT BE A 3PM SERVICE ON EASTER SUNDAY,
but there is an 8am**

CALENDAR



Who's Who at St John's:

Vicar: Rev'd Preb Sharon Crossman	789290
Training Curate: Rev'd Dan Crouch	325194
Churchwarden: Chris Perry	783753

EASTER SUNDAY **8am Said Communion** **9.30am Family Communion and Easter Egg Hunt**
****NO 3pm Communion****

Mon 22 nd	8.30am	Guild of Servers
Tues 23 rd – Fri 26 th		Easter displays in church for Churchfield school children
Wed 24 th	9.30am	Said Communion & 10.00am Foodbank Listening Place in church hall
	6pm/7pm	Light supper, followed by APCM in hall
Thurs 25 th	7.45pm	Post Lent group

Sun 28th 8am Said Communion 9.30am Communion 3pm Baptism

Tue 30 th	10am	Toddlers new term starts in hall
	7.30pm	Baptism Preparation

MAY

Wed 1 st	9.30am	Said Communion & 10.00am Foodbank Listening Place in church hall
Thurs 2 nd	10.30am	Little Angels new term starts in hall

Sun 5th 8am Said Communion 9.30am Communion

Tues 7th 10am Toddlers in church hall

Wed 8th 9.30am Said Communion & 10.00am Foodbank Listening Place in church hall

Thurs 9th 10.30am Little Angels in church hall

Sun 12th 8am Said Communion 9.30am Family Communion 3pm Baptism

To submit an article for the Signpost Weekly please e-mail
office@stjohnshighbridge.org.uk or leave a message on
01278 780633 by 8am on Thursday

Parish office opening hours:

Weds 8am-2pm Thurs 8am-10am Fri 8am -noon

Please ring in advance