



St Michael with St Mary

Sunday, 24th April: Second Sunday of Easter

- 8.00 a.m. Holy Communion (St Michael's)
- 9.30 a.m. Parish Communion (St Michael's)
- 6.00 p.m. Evensong (St Mary's)

Wednesday

- 9.00 a.m. School Service (St Michael's)
- 10.30 a.m. Holy Communion (St Michael's)

Sunday, 1st May: Third Sunday of Easter

- 8.00 a.m. Holy Communion (St Michael's)
- 9.30 a.m. Parish Communion (St Michael's)
- 6.00 p.m. Holy Communion (St Mary's)

Resources for today's 9.30am service

Children's groups meet in the Parish Centre alongside the 9.30am service during term time. The **children's corner** in the North Aisle contains themed-worksheets, books and toys. Parents please remain responsible for your children in this space. If your child needs time-out or privacy (e.g. nappy change) the Tower Room is available and has sound relay of the service.

Toilets are available in the Parish Centre at the east end of the churchyard; please see a steward for access.

Please stay for **refreshments** after the service in the Parish Centre.

As Pharaoh drew near, the Israelites looked back, and there were the Egyptians advancing on them. In great fear the Israelites cried out to the Lord. They said to Moses, 'Was it because there were no graves in Egypt that you have taken us away to die in the wilderness? What have you done to us, bringing us out of Egypt? Is this not the very thing we told you in Egypt, "Let us alone and let us serve the Egyptians"? For it would have been better for us to serve the Egyptians than to die in the wilderness.' But Moses said to the people, 'Do not be afraid, stand firm, and see the deliverance that the Lord will accomplish for you today; for the Egyptians whom you see today you shall never see again. The Lord will fight for you, and you have only to keep still.'

Then the Lord said to Moses, 'Why do you cry out to me? Tell the Israelites to go forward. But you lift up your staff, and stretch out your hand over the sea and divide it, that the Israelites may go into the sea on dry ground. Then I will harden the hearts of the Egyptians so that they will go in after them; and so I will gain glory for myself over Pharaoh and all his army, his chariots, and his chariot drivers. And the Egyptians shall know that I am the Lord, when I have gained glory for myself over Pharaoh, his chariots, and his chariot drivers.'

The angel of God who was going before the Israelite army moved and went behind them; and the pillar of cloud moved from in front of them and took its place behind them. It came between the army of Egypt and the army of Israel. And so the cloud was there with the darkness, and it lit up the night; one did not come near the other all night.

Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea. The Lord drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night, and turned the sea into dry land; and the waters were divided. The Israelites went into the sea on dry ground, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. The Egyptians pursued, and went into the sea after them, all of Pharaoh's horses, chariots, and chariot drivers. At the morning watch the Lord in the pillar of fire and cloud looked down upon the Egyptian army, and threw the Egyptian army into panic. He clogged their chariot wheels so that they turned with difficulty. The Egyptians said, 'Let us flee from the Israelites, for the Lord is fighting for them against Egypt.'

Then the Lord said to Moses, 'Stretch out your hand over the sea, so that the water may come back upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots and chariot drivers.' So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and at dawn the sea returned to its normal depth. As the Egyptians fled before it, the Lord tossed the Egyptians into the sea. The waters returned and covered the chariots and the chariot drivers, the entire army of Pharaoh that had followed them into the sea; not one of them remained. But the Israelites walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left.

Thus the Lord saved Israel that day from the Egyptians; and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore. Israel saw the great work that the Lord did against the Egyptians. So the people feared the Lord and believed in the Lord and in his servant Moses.

Then the prophet Miriam, Aaron's sister, took a tambourine in her hand; and all the women went

Resources for today's 9.30am service

out after her with tambourines and with dancing. And Miriam sang to them: 'Sing to the Lord, for he has triumphed gloriously; horse and rider he has thrown into the sea.'

Exodus 14: 10-31; 15: 20-21

When 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 Jews, 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.

John 20: 19-31

During communion the choir sings: "This joyful Eastertide",

The words are found as Hymn 161, sung to a 17th c. Dutch melody harmonised by Charles Wood.

Please remember in your prayers

- those who are **ill**, including: Peter Bell, Jacqui Follett, Jo Frost, Debbie Greenwood, Edna Hames, Michael Hogben, Helen Huson, Rachael Hymas, Ingrid Kluckova, Alice Reardon, Pat Stroud, Cora Marie Varshney, Janice Western, Paul Wiggett
- for **healing and wholeness**: Peter Loyd
- those who mourn the death of Bronwen Parr

Notices

Many thanks to everyone who worked so hard for a **moving Holy Week and joyful Easter Day**: those involved in leading worship at both churches, those who invited friends, family, neighbours or colleagues to services, those who delivered flyers, church cleaners and decorators, even those who hid Easter eggs! There is still much to recover after coronavirus and there is always further we can go, but attendance on Easter Day was among the highest in the last decade, an indication of our underlying strengths.

Notices

Kenneth's Easter sermon about Sir George Leman Tuthill and the meaning of the empty tomb is now available on the parish website.

Sunday 22 May: The **Annual Parish Meetings** will be held at 10.15am in St Michael's church (straight after the 9.30am service) Important elections are made at these meetings – Churchwardens, PCC members, Deanery Synod members and Stewards. If you are interested in serving in any of these roles, please speak with Kenneth, Val or Mark. Ahead of these meetings, our **Electoral Roll** is open for revision. If you are a regular worshipper aged 16 and above, and are not already on the church's Electoral Roll but would like to join, please complete an Electoral Roll Application Form (available at the back of both churches), and **return to the Parish Office at the Vicarage before 4 May**. Membership of the Electoral Roll gives you voting rights at parish meetings and helps keep our pastoral contacts up to date.

Vicar Vacancy: key dates

- *Sunday 29th May* – The Padleys will be saying **farewell** during the 9.30am service in St Michael's.
- *Tuesday 7th June* – **Informal Vacancy Meeting**, 7.30pm, St Michael's church. This is your chance to meet with Bishop Michael and Archdeacon Jane and together to discern aspirations for the next Vicar. **Please prioritise this meeting**. It is especially important that the full breadth of both churches and the wider community is involved in this conversation.
- *Sunday 12th June* – **Kenneth installed as Canon Treasurer** at Salisbury, 4.30pm. There is a possible parish bus being organised - info to follow. If you decide to travel by car, please let Kenneth know because the cathedral would appreciate rough numbers for refreshments: kennethpadley@gmail.com

St Michael's Folk Evening is back this year. Your Mission & Community team are in full planning mode to host our contribution to the event, as usual in the churchyard, details to follow soon! Please save the date: **Wednesday 6th July**. The bellringers will be opening the event from 7pm. If you are planning to attend and can help setup, serve and clear away in any shape or form, we would love to hear from you. Please contact Kate on KateFrancesBerry1@outlook.com Those wishing to attend the IOF Platinum Jubilee Concert in the Cathedral on the same evening (starting 7.30pm) will still have time to make it down the hill after the concert to St Michael's before proceedings wind up at 10pm!

Help required. We need willing and able **volunteers to train as first aiders** in order to provide sufficient health and safety provision at church events such as Folk Night. Participants would need to undertake a training course and gain certification in first aid, complete a DBS check, and be willing to support events such as Folk Night in July and Bonfire Night in November. **We must have first aid provision if these events are going to run; it is an insurance requirement.** All training costs and expenses will be covered, plus free entry to the events. If you are able to help please contact Val Chiesa on chiesa@btinternet.com