

MOVING ON! Course starts 16 April

How do we live our lives as followers of Jesus? How do we establish healthy habits so that we continue to grow in faith? On Monday, 16th April at 8pm we are starting a new course at the Rectory, where we will explore these questions in a small group with group discussions, short videos and bible reflections. This is the perfect follow-on course if you have done START! in the past or if you would like to grow in your Christian faith. **Interested? Please let our church office know as we will limit the group size to 10-12.**

ANNUAL REPORT 2017

The annual report is now available. Please take *one copy per family* in preparation for our APCM and bring it along to the meeting on 15 April.

Nine-A-Day: Cultivating the Fruit of the Spirit

Today we are beginning a new sermon series, looking at St Paul's teaching about the fruit of the Spirit (Galatians 5.22): *Love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control* are increasingly in evidence in our life as we become more like Jesus.

"What helps me to become more like Jesus?"

Christoph would love your one-sentence answer on a piece of paper or email (rector@denhamparish.church). And don't worry he won't mention your name from the pulpit!

Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM)

Our Annual Meeting will be **next Sunday, 15th April, at 11.45am** (straight after the morning service). It is an opportunity to give thanks to God for all that has happened in the life of our church in 2017 and to get a clearer idea of his good plans for us over the next 12 months. We will also elect our two church wardens and some members of our PCC (please look out for more details on our notice board). **Please make every effort to be there!**

Monday 9th April

10.00am NO Lifegroup for Women.

7.30pm NO Evening Prayer

Thursday 12th April

10.00am Holy Communion. BCP.

St Mary's Vestry

Friday 13th April

Church office closed

In Christ alone my hope is found,
He is my light, my strength, my song;
This Cornerstone, this solid Ground,
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm.
What heights of love, what depths of peace,
When fears are stilled, when strivings cease!
My Comforter, my All in All,
Here in the love of Christ I stand.

In Christ alone! - who took on flesh,
Fullness of God in helpless babe.
This gift of love and righteousness,
Scorned by the ones He came to save:
Till on that cross as Jesus died,
The wrath of God was satisfied -
For every sin on Him was laid;
Here in the death of Christ I live.

There in the ground His body lay,
Light of the world by darkness slain;
Then bursting forth in glorious day
Up from the grave He rose again!
And as He stands in victory
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me,
For I am His and He is mine -
Bought with the precious blood of Christ.

No guilt in life, no fear in death,
This is the power of Christ in me;
From life's first cry to final breath,
Jesus commands my destiny.
No power of hell, no scheme of man,
Can ever pluck me from His hand:
Till He returns or calls me home,
Here in the power of Christ I'll stand.



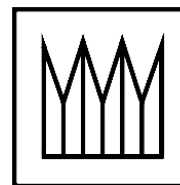
PAROUSIA

Weekly News Sheet

8th April 2018

Second Sunday of Easter

Welcome to church! If you are here for the first time or visiting, please say hello to the service leader or a member of the welcome team so we can welcome you personally. During the 10.30 service there is Sunday club for children. If your child is under three or if you would like to help him/her settle, you are welcome to join in.
Christoph Lindner, Rector



New City Catechism

Question 49:

Where is Christ now?

Christ rose bodily from the grave on the third day after his death and is seated at the right hand of the Father, ruling his kingdom and interceding for us, until he returns to judge and renew the whole world.

Ephesians 1.20-21: God raised Christ from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms, far above all rule and authority, power and dominion, and every name that is invoked, not only in the present age but also in the one to come.

Commentary: No doubt you've heard the phrase "out of sight, out of mind." Someone who's not around doesn't have much impact or relevance in your day-to-day life. The Bible tells us that after Jesus's resurrection, he ascended into heaven, disappearing from view, out of sight. But we're also told that because of where he now resides, we can be assured that he's relevant in our daily lives.

So where is Jesus now? He's seated at the right hand of God the Father. But what difference does that make to us in our day-to-day lives? First, it reminds us that Jesus rules over all creation. When you struggle with discouragement or disappointment or bitterness about the way your life is going, or when you're discouraged and angry about all the injustice and evil in the world, consider where Jesus is now. The One who conquered death is now ruling the world. Let this give you hope and courage to trust and follow him.

But not only is Jesus the King who rules, but he is the Priest who intercedes. He is our Advocate in every sense of that word. So to see Jesus at God's right hand as our High Priest is to remember that there is no condemnation for our sin, that Jesus sacrificed himself so that we could be united with him. We have the full rights, therefore, as God's children.

So, yes, Jesus is out of sight. We can't physically see him. But he is active in our day-to-day lives and waiting to return, when he will wipe away every tear, beat swords into ploughshares, and flood the world with his glory and grace. (*David Bisgrove*)

Prayer: Risen and Ascended Lord, though you no longer walk this earth, you rule over us from your throne. All authority and power are in you. Your name is above all names. Raise us up at the last day to live with you in your kingdom. Amen.

(The complete *New City Catechism* is available as a book, a free app or at newcitycatechism.com)

Worship today



8th April
2nd Sunday of Easter

8.00am Holy Communion *St Mary's*

Sidesman: Philip Constable

Reader: Mary Gage

Readings: 1 John 5. 4-12
John 20. 19-23

9.55-10.00 Pre-service Prayer
St Mary's, front of church

10.30am Sung Communion
St Mary's with Sunday club for children
Nine-A-Day: Cultivating the Fruit of the Spirit.

Sidesmen: Maurice Litchmore & Robin Doran

Readings and readers:

Colossians 1. 9-23 Robert Ash
John 20. 19-23 Robin Doran

Prayers: Rosemary Doran

Servers: Francis Moloney & Carlene Litchmore

Sunday Club Leader: Edda Lindner

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 Prayer

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.

Colossians 1. 9-23

For this reason, since the day we heard it, we have not ceased praying for you and asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of God's will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, ¹⁰so that you may lead lives worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him, as you bear fruit in every good work and as you grow in the knowledge of God. ¹¹May you be made strong with all the strength that comes from his glorious power, and may you be prepared to endure everything with patience, while joyfully ¹²giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light. ¹³He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, ¹⁴in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. ¹⁵He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; ¹⁶for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers—all things have been created through him and for him. ¹⁷He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. ¹⁸He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. ¹⁹For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, ²⁰and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross. ²¹And you who were once estranged and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds, ²²he has now reconciled in his fleshly body through death, so as to present you holy and blameless and irreproachable before him ²³provided that you continue securely established and steadfast in the faith, >>>

>>> without shifting from the hope promised by the gospel that you heard, which has been proclaimed to every creature under heaven. I, Paul, became a servant of this gospel.

This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God

Fill us with the knowledge of your will.
Fill us with the knowledge of your will.
Give us wisdom and understanding
to lead lives that are worthy of you.

Help us to bear good fruit in everything we do.
Give us wisdom and understanding...

Jesus, all the riches of the knowledge of God are found in you. Give us wisdom ...

John 20. 19-23

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to John.

All: Glory to you, O Lord.

¹⁹When 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.'

²⁰After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹Jesus said to them again, 'Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.'

²²When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, 'Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord

All: Praise to you, O Christ

Worship next week



15th April
3rd Sunday of Easter

8.00am Holy Communion *St Mary's*

Sidesman: Carlene Litchmore

Reader: Stephen Barrett

Readings: 1 Peter 2. 19-end
John 10. 11-16

9.55-10.00 Pre-service Prayer
St Mary's, front of church

10.30am Morning Worship
St Mary's with Sunday club for children & Older Children
Nine-A-Day: Love

Sidesmen: Janet Drane & Sam Carter

Readings and readers:

1 John 4.7-12 Sam Carter
John 13. 34-35 Sophie Clements

Prayers: Carole Wadlow

Sunday Club Leader: Kathy Paine

11.45am Annual Parochial Church Meeting
St Mary's

In your prayers this week, please remember **Ethel White, Thelma Mann, Peggy Wasley and Christine Willson.**

Also anyone known to us who is sick or suffering the pain of bereavement at this time especially the family of **Mark Miller, Daisy Smith and Jean Standing.**