

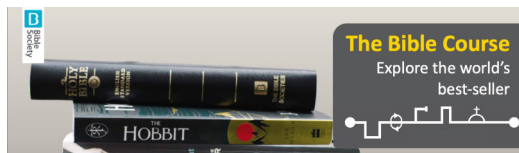
Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) 23 May 2021 - Electoral Roll 2021

This year's Electoral Roll registration will be a revised version of 2021. If there are any changes to your details, please complete a new form which is available at the following link:

tinyurl.com/electoralroll2021

or from Electoral Roll Officer (ERO), Maurice Litchmore at maurl@btinternet.com. If you need a paper copy by post, please contact our church office.

Anyone who has been a regular worshipper at Denham Parish Church (i.e. at least once a month) for at least 6 months may apply to become a member of the Church which will enable them to vote at the APCM. Signed applications should be sent to the ERO via the post or hand delivered to the Church Office by 29 April 2021.



THE BIBLE COURSE

Get a bird's eye view of the all-time bestselling book! In eight sessions we will explore the big story of the bible and its themes.

This course is suitable for anyone – those who want to understand the book better which forms the basis of their faith and those who want to explore it because it has shaped our thinking, values, culture, language and literature like no other.

Starts on Zoom from Monday, 10 May

Find out more and sign up:

www.denhamparish.church/biblecourse

SUNDAY WORSHIP: ON SITE

St Mary's Church: 9.30am

Onsite Sunday morning worship. Please register in advance by calling our church office or going to denhamparish.church/events

Online: Sundays 10.30am

Stream any time afterwards:

tinyurl.com/youtube-denham



ONLINE AND ON THE PHONE

Church Coffee Online:

Sundays, 11.15 on Youtube and Facebook. or on Zoom.

Telephone: Available any time for a week, Sun to Sat: **01895 714013**



Let's pray together ...

- pray God would deepen our trust in him during this time.
- For medical experts, politicians and public leaders – for wisdom, compassion and integrity.
- those who are sick and those suffering from bereavement especially the family of Sean Ryde, and Jean Frost.

ONLINE DONATIONS



If you wish to make a donation to Denham Parish Church, please scan this code with the camera or QR app on your smartphone and follow instructions.

email: office@denhamparish.church

phone: 01895 832771



PAROUSIA

Weekly News and Service Sheet

18th April 2021

The Third Sunday of Easter

Welcome to St Mary's Church! We are so glad you are here. 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. If you read this at home, please find a simple service on the inside pages, which you can use to guide your prayers.

Christoph Lindner, Rector

Touch, taste and see

After Jesus rose from the dead, many of the disciples were still troubled and had doubts. In His mercy, God used many infallible proofs that Jesus had risen from the dead to clear their doubts and establish their faith. From where we read, Jesus appeared to them physically, he ate food in their presence.

Jesus still calls on us today to touch Him and see Him. We may not see Him physically the way those early disciples did but as He told the Apostle Thomas 'Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed' (John 20:29). By faith, our experience of God today can be real, concrete and personal as those of the early disciples. In our different situations and circumstances, we can see Him with the eye of faith and bring to reality those interventions that we ask of Him. Taste and see that the Lord is good (Psalm 34:8).

Christ reminded the disciples that everything written about him in the Bible had to be fulfilled. This includes His suffering, death, resurrection and worldwide proclamation of the gospel (v 46-47). The disciples initially did not understand the idea of a suffering Messiah. Christ therefore had to open their minds to enable them understand the scriptures. We all need divine enlightenment today to enable us to understand the scriptures and correctly apply them in our ever changing world.

It is not enough to proclaim 'Christ is risen', it is not enough to believe in the resurrection. We have to move from the event of the resurrection to experiencing the resurrection. Experiencing resurrected life begins with recognising the risen Christ among us. That is the gift of Easter and also the difficulty and challenge described in today's gospel. To many the tomb is open but their minds are closed. They are unable to recognise the holiness that stands among them. Resurrected life can never be comprehended, contained or controlled by human thought or understanding. Jesus' resurrection compels us to step outside our usual human understanding of reality and enter into the divine reality. Most times we bind ourselves through our fears, our sorrows and losses, our runaway thoughts and distractions, our attachments and addiction to things, people and beliefs. Sometimes it is our unwillingness to allow God to grow and change us.

Christ our God longs to open our minds to understand the scriptures, to understand all that has been written, spoken and revealed about Him. That is what Jesus did for the disciples and it is what he does for us. This is not merely an intellectual understanding. That the disciples are witnesses does not mean they now have all the answers, it means they now have the life Jesus wants to give them. They are witnesses based not on what they know but on who they are, how they live and their relationship with the risen Christ.

Nnamdi Maduka

STAY SAFE • STAY CONNECTED • STAY HOPEFUL

WELCOME

OPENING PRAYER (From Psalm 77)

I will call to mind the deeds of the LORD; I will remember your wonders of old. I will meditate on all your work, and muse on your mighty deeds. Your way, O God, is holy. What god is so great as our God? You are the God who works wonders; you have displayed your might among the peoples. With your strong arm you redeemed your people, the descendants of Jacob and Joseph. Amen.

HYMN

Rejoice, the Lord is King!
Your Lord and King adore;
Mortals, give thanks and sing,
And triumph evermore.

*Lift up your heart, lift up your voice;
Rejoice, again I say, rejoice.*

Jesus the Saviour reigns,
The God of truth and love;
When he had purged our stains,
He took his seat above.

His kingdom cannot fail;
He rules o'er earth and heav'n;
The keys of death and hell
Are to our Jesus giv'n.

CONFESSION

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, we have sinned against you, through our own fault, in thought, and word, and deed, and in what we have left undone. We are heartily sorry, and repent of all our sins. For your Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake, forgive us all that is past; and grant that we may serve you in newness of life to the glory of your name. Amen.

May almighty God, who sent his Son into the world to save sinners, bring you his pardon and peace, now and for ever. Amen.

COLLECT

Risen Christ, you filled your disciples with boldness and fresh hope: strengthen us to proclaim your risen life and fill us with your peace, to the glory of God the Father. Amen

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND BANNS

BIBLE READING: Luke 24.36b–48

Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, 'Peace be with you.' They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. He said to them, 'Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have.' And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, 'Have you anything here to eat?' They gave him a piece of broiled fish, and he took it and ate in their presence. Then he said to them, 'These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.' Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, 'Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

ANTHEM

This joyful Eastertide,
away with sin and sorrow.
My Love, the Crucified,
has sprung to life this morrow:

*Had Christ, that once was slain,
Ne'er burst his three-day prison,
Our faith had been in vain:
But now hath Christ arisen,
Arisen, arisen, arisen!*

My flesh in hope shall rest,
and for a season slumber:
till trump from east to west:
shall wake the dead in number:

Death's flood hath lost its chill,
since Jesus crossed the river:
lover of souls, from ill
my passing soul deliver:

PRAYERS

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and for ever.
Amen.**

HYMN

Glorious things of thee are spoken,
Zion, city of our God;
He whose word cannot be broken
Formed thee for his own abode.
On the Rock of Ages founded,
What can shake thy sure repose?
With salvation's walls surrounded,
Thou may'st smile at all thy foes.

See, the streams of living waters,
Springing from eternal love,
Well supply thy sons and daughters,
And all fear of want remove.
Who can faint while such a river
Ever flows their thirst to assuage?
Grace which, like the Lord, the giver,
Never fails from age to age.

Saviour, if of Zion's city
I through grace a member am,
Let the world deride or pity,
I will glory in thy name.
Fading is the worldling's pleasure,
Boasted pomp and empty show;
Solid joys and lasting treasure
None but Zion's children know.

SENDING PRAYER

Glory to God,
**whose power, at work among us,
can do infinitely more
than all we can ask or conceive;
to him be glory in the Church and in
Christ Jesus, for ever and ever.
Amen.**

THE BLESSING

Christ crucified draw you to himself, to find in him a sure ground for faith, a firm support for hope, and the assurance of sins forgiven; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among us and remain with us always. Amen.

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