

ST PETER & ALL SAINTS NOTTINGHAM



April 2022



Parish Magazine

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THE PARISH OF ST PETER AND ALL SAINTS, NOTTINGHAM



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CHURCHES

St Peter's Church, St Peter's Square, Nottingham NG1 2NW All Saints' Church, Raleigh Street, Nottingham NG7 4DP



The Reverend Christopher Harrison

With Holy Week now imminent, Lent approaches its climax and we prepare for the joyous celebration of Easter. At this time when the world has been so focused on the devastation and destruction suffered by the people of Ukraine, it is good to be reminded of the new hope and promise of new life brought to us by the risen Christ. Our hearts and minds continue to be with the people of Ukraine in their struggle, and it has been encouraging to see at least some signs of a possible reduction or even a cessation of the hostilities. Nevertheless, it is still too early to be sure what will happen, although the massive response of peoples and governments around the world have shown that resisting evil and showing compassion to the victims is bearing fruit. Our own parish appeal in support of the people of Ukraine has produced a splendid response; the appeal remains open during Lent and has already reached £1,609.45.

The invasion of Ukraine has replaced the Covid-19 pandemic in dominating the headlines over the past month or so. As we become accustomed to accepting that Covid-19 will not just disappear of its own accord, there continue to be those who, quite understandably, have to take precautions in safeguarding their own health and that of those around them. I imagine that most of us will know of several people who have contracted Covid-19 in recent weeks, and I suspect that now that there is less emphasis on testing, the official infection numbers are a considerable underestimate of the true picture. This means that while we no doubt long to return to life pre-Covid, it will be quite a while before all of us can fully do this. We must continue to show consideration for those who are at risk, and balance their needs with the understandable desire not to be too restricted in our activities. I suspect that we will need to continue to assess and reassess the situation for some time to come.

It has been good to see various new people attending our churches in recent weeks. Do take time to greet people whom you don't recognise, and don't be afraid of asking their names and inviting them to come to coffee after the main Sunday services in each church. I believe we are also becoming more international, especially at St Peter's, with people from a wide variety of countries now attending worship. This is a splendid reflection of the worldwide Church, and we all have much to share with one another from our various backgrounds. This also connects with the theme of our Lent discussions, which is 'How can we be a truly inclusive Church?' We have so far looked at issues of disability, ethnicity and race, gender, and mental health, and these sessions have produced some in depth discussion with lots of opportunity to learn more about how we can ensure that all people in our churches are truly valued. It's still not too late to join the sessions for the last two in the series, which will be on Thursday April 7th (poverty) and Tuesday April 12th (sexuality). The meetings are on zoom and start at 7.30 pm; see the notice sheet for the link.

As Holy Week approaches, do make every effort to observe this most important week in the Church's year as fully as you can. On Palm Sunday, 10th April, we come together for the blessing of the palm crosses, which remind us of Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem riding on a donkey. The crowds quickly turned against him, however, swayed by the manipulations of those who saw Jesus as a threat and wanted to do away with him. Jesus celebrates the Last Supper and then goes to pray in the Garden of Gethsemane, where he is arrested, having been betrayed by Judas Iscariot. After his trial and conviction, he carries his own cross to the place of crucifixion, where he breathes his last and dies. All seems lost; but then of course comes the first Easter morning, when he appears again, risen from the grave. Our churches are resplendent with Easter flowers as we join with millions around the world in proclaiming, 'Christ is risen; he is risen indeed!'

Easter morning is traditionally the time for baptisms, when those who have been preparing for this throughout Lent are baptised in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. For the first time in many years we will be holding a baptism during the 10.45 service on Easter morning at St Peter's, when Joshua, a student from Nottingham Trent University, will be baptised. We thank God for bringing Joshua to baptism and to the new life in Christ which this brings. Let us take this opportunity to remember our own baptism, and to know in our hearts that we belong to Christ; may the love and peace of the crucified and risen Christ be with you all this Holy Week and in the Easter season.

A Prayer for Kindness

Christ who knew the ministry of angels, but welcomed with joy the care of human friends: a woman and a jar of perfume, a meal shared and a joke understood. Teach us never to underestimate the treasure of kindness. We thank you for the people we encounter whose warmth brings comfort and brightness, whether they are strangers, acquaintances or those close to us. Inspire our hearts and imaginations to touch the lives of others in our turn, to give the gift a smile, encouraging words or practical help. **Amen**.

A Prayer for Human Stewardship

From the depths of a crisis, we see so much ugliness and injustice, and yet so much hope and potential, we pray for the courage to look with honest eyes at uncomfortable truths, but also for vision and energy to build on the beauty, richness and love which surrounds us. Suddenly, it is harder to close our eyes to the filth we leave in rivers, the cruelty which we inflict on animals and the ease which we overlook the homeless and destitute, keep us mindful of lessons learnt when this pandemic has passed. Help us to become better stewards, to treat our fellow creatures and the Earth which you have created with compassion and respect, to share more fairly with our human brothers and sisters, and to remember with awe the bonds which bind us, as your children and the works of your hands. **Amen**.

A Prayer for Service

We hold before you in gratitude the many and varied ways in which we serve one another, and pray in thanksgiving for our brothers and sisters. We think of those who provide healthcare and security at this time, doctors, nurses, police-officers and many in supporting roles. And we recall with gratitude those whose contribution is outside the realm of paid work, but who are carers, homemakers or who are otherwise a source of prayer, kindness and support in the world. The offering of each person is unique and precious, and we you to strengthen all, and comfort any in sickness, anxiety or distress. **Amen.**

EASTER BREAKFAST

Monday 18th April, 10am at the home of Lina and Wilfred Morgan in aid of Mercy Ships.

Further details from any member of the Overseas Committee.

There will be a sign-up sheet at the back of both churches to help with catering.



Collected Poems, Rowan Williams

'Reading this poet, at such a period in our history, is like feeling the first drops of rain after a long season of drought.' *A.N. Wilson*

Robert Graves said of poetry that it was a kind of "stored magic".

This store of collected poems taken from 'Headwaters' published in 2008 and 'The Other Mountain' published in 2014, along with new poems, lives up to that definition.

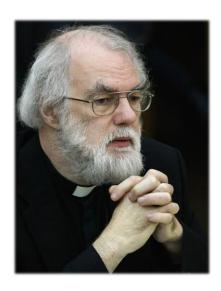
This poem is for Easter, and also a taste of some of that magic.

Emmaus

First the sun, then the shadow, so that I screw my eyes to see my friend's face, and its lines seem different, and the voice shakes in the hot air. Out of the rising white dust, feet tread a shape, and, out of step, another flat sound, stamped between voice and ears, dancing in the gaps, and dodging where words and feet do not fall.

When our eyes meet, I see bewilderment (like mine); we cannot learn this rhythm we are asked to walk, and what we hear is not each other. Between us is filled up, the silence is filled up, lines of our hands and faces pushed into shape by the solid stranger, and the static breaks up our waves like dropped stones.

So it is necessary to carry him with us, cupped between hands and profiles, so that the table is filled up, and as the food is set and the first wine splashes, a solid thumb and finger tear the thunderous grey bread. Now it is cold, even indoors; and the light falls sharply on our bones; the rain breathes out hard, dust blackens, and our released voices shine with water.





'Supper at Emmaus'
Michelangelo Merisi da Caravaggio

Easter Services

- Sunday 10th April Palm Sunday
- Thursday 14th April Maundy Thursday.
 - * 12 noon Holy Communion at All Saints'
 - * 7.30 pm Sung Eucharist with vigil at St Peter's
- Friday 15th April Good Friday
 - * 12 noon The Three Hours at St Peter's
 - * 2.00 pm Good Friday Service at All Saints'
- Sunday 17th April Easter Sunday
 - * 6.00 am Easter Vigil & Dawn Eucharist at St Peter's
 - * 8.15 am Holy Communion at St Peter's
 - * 10.30 am Sung Eucharist at All Saints'
 - * 10.45 am Sung Eucharist at St Peter's



On Thursday 24th March, 30 children from year 3 at Rosslyn School in Aspley came to St Peters' with their class teacher for their 'Easter Days' afternoon. A second class arrived on Friday morning and the number of children attending our 'Easter Days' sessions was made up to 90 when the third class from Rosslyn School arrived on Friday afternoon.



The children were delightful - well behaved, eager to ask questions and engaged with every story and activity. There was great excitement about their journey on the tram - a first for some of them.

A beautiful spring day meant that while the activities were taking place a good number of visitors dropped by. Some were amazed to see the crib figures reinstated on the dais in the middle of Lent, waiting for the donkey to bring Mary and Joseph to the manger. Others stopped to watch the Palm Sunday procession in full swing with palms and hosannas make its way to the stained-glass window in the south aisle and were intrigued to find the donkey there.

The children listened entranced as Lina told them the story of Maundy Thursday, and they tasted the flat bread and grapes which would have been part of the Last Supper. With Anne's support the children created beautiful cards for Easter or Mothering Sunday or to say thank you to Dad. It was extremely moving to be able to share the loving messages they wrote in careful handwriting inside their decorated cards.

Covid of course made its presence felt. Four of the volunteers had tested positive, but true to form the team pulled together. Ros and Jan helped out at the last minute and everything ran smoothly and to plan. The teachers commented on the calm and caring atmosphere. Our evaluator, Claire, who attended all three sessions joined in whole heartedly to help out, she seemed to enjoy the days as much as the children.



At the end of the day, we sat down together for a well-earned cup of tea reflecting on how privileged we felt as volunteers to greet these children, many of whom were visiting a church for the first time, and anticipating the next event on 31st March when 75 children from Victoria School in the Meadows arrive for an afternoon exploring 'What's in a Church'.

Please support the Coffee Room and Fairtrade shop!

The Coffee Room is open Tuesday–Saturday, 10.30 am–2.30 pm. The shop opening times are Tuesday–Thursday, 11.00 am–2.00 pm.



*St Peter's Coffee Room and the Fairtrade Shop will close for an Easter Break beginning on Good Friday.

Both will re-open on Tuesday 26th April.*

Services in April

Care do - 2rd	0.15	II-1 C	Ct Data /
Sunday 3 rd	8.15 am	Holy Communion	St Peter's
	10.30 am	The Eucharist	All Saints'
	10.45 am	Matins*	St Peter's
		Responses Tomkins	
		The Lamentations Bairstow	
	F 00	Lo, the full final sacrifice <i>Finzi</i>	C.D /
	5.00 pm	Holy Communion with prayers for healing	St Peter's
Tuesday 5 th	11.00 am	Holy Communion	All Saints'
	1.15 pm	Holy Communion	St Peter's
Thursday 7 th	11.00 am	Holy Communion	St Peter's
Sunday 10 th	8.15 am	Holy Communion	St Peter's
Palm Sunday	9.45 am	Family Service	St Peter's
T ann Sanaay	10.30 am	The Eucharist	All Saints'
	10.30 am		St Peter's
	10.45 alli	Sung Eucharist with Liturgy of the Palms*	St reter s
		Pueri Hebraeorum <i>Victoria</i>	
		God so loved the world <i>Stainer</i>	
		Agnus Dei in D Leighton	
		Solus ad victimam <i>Leighton</i>	
	6.00 pm	Evensong*	All Saints'
	0.00 pm	Responses plainsong	7 III Sairtes
		The First Service <i>Moore</i>	
		I will lift up mine eyes Walker	
Tuesday 12 th	11.00 am	Holy Communion	All Saints'
	1.15 pm	Holy Communion	St Peter's
Thursday 14th	11.00 am	Holy Communion	St Peter's
Maundy Thursday	12.00 noon	Holy Communion	All Saints'
	7.30 pm	Sung Eucharist and Vigil*	St Peter's
	, loo piii	Communion Service in D <i>Leighton</i>	311 0101 5
		Ubi caritas <i>Gjeilo</i>	
		The Reproaches Sanders	
Friday 15 th	12.00 noon	The Three Hours	All Saints'
Good Friday	2.00 pm	Good Friday Service	St Peter's
Sunday 17 th	6.00 am	Easter Vigil & Dawn Eucharist	St Peter's
Easter Day	8.15 am	Holy Communion	St Peter's
,	10.30 am	Sung Eucharist	All Saints'
	10.45 am	Sung Eucharist*	St Peter's
		This joyful Eastertide <i>Wood</i>	21 - 2102 0
		Agnus Dei in F Stanford	
		Ye choirs of new Jerusalem Stanford	
Sunday 24th	8.15 am	Holy Communion	St Peter's
	10.30 am	The Eucharist	All Saints'
	10.45 am	Sung Eucharist*	St Peter's
		Holy Communion in F Sumsion	
		This joyful Eastertide Owens	
	6.00 pm	Compline*	All Saints'
Tuesday 27h	11.00 am	Holy Communion	All Saints'
	1.15 pm	Holy Communion	St Peter's
Thursday 29th	11.00 am	Holy Communion	St Peter's
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Regular Activities in our Churches

All Saints'

- Coffee and Fellowship (part of the Places of Welcome network): Tuesdays from 11.30 am 1.00 pm
- The Nottingham University Society of Change Ringers (Bell Ringers): Tuesdays in term time, 7.00 8.30 pm
- The Nottingham Enlightening Word Church (Chinese) meets in All Saints' Church on Sundays from 2.00 4.00 pm and on Friday evenings from 7.30 pm.

St Peter's:

- Rough Sleepers' Drop-in: Mondays (women only) from 10.30 am 12 noon;
- The Thursday communion service at 11.00 is followed by coffee and fellowship
- St Peter's Bell Ringers: Thursdays 7.00 9.00 pm

The Parish Overseas Committee meets every other month; the Caring for our Common Home working group also meets on a regular basis. Please contact the Rector if you would like to know more about these. Our churches also support the work of the Mount Zion foodbank at Bobbers Mill; collection boxes for gifts of food are available in the churches.

The Parish Office St Peter's Centre St Peter's Square Nottingham NG1 2NW

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Charity number: 1130298