

# THE SUNDAY SUPPLEMENT

11<sup>th</sup> April 2021 – Second Sunday of Easter (“Low Sunday”)

## NOTICES

### HRH The Duke of Edinburgh RIP



I am sure that you will already have seen the very significant media attention which has been given to the death of HRH The Duke of Edinburgh yesterday.

The nation is currently in an official period of mourning, ending on the morning after the funeral. In so far as possible, where our churches have flag poles, we will fly union or other usual flags at half mast during this time. We will use some of the prayers set for this occasion in our services this Sunday. Due to Covid restrictions, we must be careful about any gathering.

The government has also instructed that physical books of condolence should not be kept in churches or other public buildings, as is normally prescribed in such cases. There are online books of condolence, including that operated by the Church of England, whose web pages have other resources for prayer and remembrance:

<https://www.churchofengland.org/>

### Chalice and chalice assistants

For the time being, we do not expect to return to the use of the chalice in church. However, we should be ready for that eventuality. If you would like to remain authorised as a chalice assistant, or would like to be authorised to assist in this way for the first time, please get in touch with Stephen.

### Broughton APCM

Broughton will hold its APCM for 2021 on 28<sup>th</sup> April. Due to Covid disruption, this is (regrettably) both very soon after the 2020 APCM and will be subject to the restrictions in force at that date.

If you would like to serve on the PCC and help to develop our churches and ministry as we emerge from the pandemic, please be in touch with Stephen or with Helen Lewis, PCC Secretary.

### Low Sunday

The Sunday after Easter is traditionally ‘Low Sunday’. The origins of the name are obscure: it is generally suggested either that the name is a corruption of *laudes*

at the start of the mediaeval rite, or simply a contrast between the ‘high’ Sunday of the Easter feast a week earlier. In modern times, it has also reflected the fact that clergy often take a week off immediately after Easter, resulting in lacklustre services the following weekend. I hope we shall not have that!

## READINGS AND PRAYERS

### Collect

Almighty Father,  
you have given your only Son to die for our sins  
and to rise again for our justification:  
grant us so to put away the leaven of malice and  
wickedness  
that we may always serve you  
in pureness of living and truth;  
through the merits of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

### Exodus 14:10-end; 15:20, 21

*Note: during Easter Season, priority is given to the readings from Acts, and hence the OT readings, telling of the Exodus, may not be used at services.*

### Acts 4:32-35

*A reading from the Acts of the Apostles*

<sup>32</sup> Now the whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common. <sup>33</sup> With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. <sup>34</sup> There was not a needy person among them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold. <sup>35</sup> They laid it at the apostles’ feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

*This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.***

### Psalm 133

<sup>1</sup> How very good and pleasant it is  
when kindred live together in unity!  
<sup>2</sup> It is like the precious oil on the head,  
running down upon the beard,  
on the beard of Aaron,  
running down over the collar of his robes.  
<sup>3</sup> It is like the dew of Hermon,  
which falls on the mountains of Zion.

For there the Lord ordained his blessing,  
life for evermore.

## **I John 1:1 – 2:2**

*A reading from the First Letter of John*

We declare to you what was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the word of life— <sup>2</sup> this life was revealed, and we have seen it and testify to it, and declare to you the eternal life that was with the Father and was revealed to us— <sup>3</sup> we declare to you what we have seen and heard so that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. <sup>4</sup> We are writing these things so that our joy may be complete.

<sup>5</sup> This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light and in him there is no darkness at all. <sup>6</sup> If we say that we have fellowship with him while we are walking in darkness, we lie and do not do what is true; <sup>7</sup> but if we walk in the light as he himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. <sup>8</sup> If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. <sup>9</sup> If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. <sup>10</sup> If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

**2** My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; <sup>2</sup> and he is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

*This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.***

## **John 20:19-end**

*Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to St John. **Glory to you, O Lord.***

<sup>19</sup> 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.' <sup>20</sup> After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. <sup>21</sup> Jesus said to them again, 'Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.' <sup>22</sup> When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, 'Receive the Holy Spirit. <sup>23</sup> If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.'

<sup>24</sup> But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. <sup>25</sup> 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.'

<sup>26</sup> 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.' <sup>27</sup> 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.' <sup>28</sup> Thomas answered him, 'My Lord and my God!' <sup>29</sup> 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.'

<sup>30</sup> Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. <sup>31</sup> 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.

*This is the Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you O Christ.***

## **Prayer after 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.