



Celebrating the 4th Sunday of Easter Weekly update Sunday 21st April 2024

Throughout my ministry I have tried to build as an accurate picture as possible of our Lord Jesus Christ. In particular I have endeavoured to show that Jesus was not some insipid, sanctimonious do-gooder, as suggested in the verse gentle Jesus meek and mild. This interpretation has done much to put a lot of men off becoming Christians. When you read about Jesus in the New Testament you can see that he was strong and intelligent; quick witted, heavenly minded but earthly wise; a man of great integrity and deep spirituality; compassionate but in no way gullible. In short he was the epitome of manhood, indeed humankind as it was meant to be. Today we think of Jesus as the good shepherd; the good strong, caring, loving and brave shepherd of the sheep - someone worth following. Alleluia!

Verse of the Week

*Jesus said, "I am the good shepherd; I know my sheep and my sheep know me."
John 10:14*

Collect for today!

Risen Christ, faithful shepherd of your Father's sheep:
teach us to hear your voice and to follow your command,
that all your people may be gathered into one flock, to
the glory of God the Father.



Bible Readings

This week's bible readings; Acts 4: 5-12 and John 10: 11-18

Next week's bible readings; Acts 8: 26-end and John 15: 1-8

Services in the Parish this week beginning Sunday 21st April 2024



8.00am Holy Communion (BCP), Lady St Mary, Wareham

9.00am Breakfast Church, Sandford St Martin's

10.00am Praise Communion Service, Lady St Mary, Wareham

10.30am Holy Communion (BCP), St Nicholas, Arne

10.30am Morning Worship, Sandford St Martin's

10.30am Parish Online Service - Watch here: <https://tinyurl.com/warehamchurches>

you can listen to the service by dialling: 01202 078008 (charged at local rate)

Wednesday 24th April at 11.00am Holy Communion (BCP), St Martin-on-the-Walls

Services in the Parish for beginning Sunday 28th April 2024

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP), Lady St Mary, Wareham

9.00am Breakfast Church, Sandford St Martin's

10.00am Holy Communion Service, Lady St Mary, Wareham

10.30am Holy Communion, Sandford St Martin's

10.30am Parish Online Service - Watch here: <https://tinyurl.com/warehamchurches>

you can listen to the service by dialling: 01202 078008 (charged at local rate)

6.00pm Evensong (BCP), St John the Evangelist, East Holme

Wednesday 1st May at 11.00am Holy Communion (BCP), St Martin-on-the-Walls

What is happening in the Parish?

Annual Parochial Church meeting - The APCM will take place **this Wednesday, 24th April 2024**. It will start with the Annual Vestry Meeting at 7pm followed by the Annual Parochial Church meeting. If you have any item that you wish to be discussed please submit it to Debs Barclay at least 48 hours in advance. The meetings will take place in the Parish Hall, Wareham. All are welcome but if you are unable to attend, please let me know and I will put forward your apologies.

Lady St Mary Church Bell Ringers are teaching new recruits aged 12+ years on Thursdays 7.00 until 7.30pm. If anyone is interested or would like to see the bells in action, please contact Jenny Elmes 01929 553651.



Open House - at Sandford St Martin's Church - **Thursday 25th April 2024, at 2 pm.** The Talk will be "Being a Vet" There will be a talk, followed by a cup of tea, chat, and a raffle. All are most welcome.

Men's Breakfast - The next Men's breakfast will be on **Saturday 27th April at 8.30am** at Sandford St Martin's church. The guest speaker this month will be Richard Weaver, Zone Chairman of Wareham Lions. **Please note that the breakfast will be a cold breakfast this time.** Whether you are a regular at men's breakfasts, or have never been before, you are most welcome to come along. **Please contact the Parish Office no later than the Wednesday before to book your place, on 01929 550905 or email: parish.office@warehamchurches.org.uk**



Worse Things Happen at Sea (2) - Blessings in Disguise Next Sunday (12.30pm) the Rector is giving a talk at a fundraising lunch, in the Parish Hall. He will be talking about his life at sea and how he then felt the call to ordination. Some of you will have heard his first talk on this but this presentation will include much new material. Tickets (£10) are available from the Parish Office and the churchwardens. If you intend coming please buy your tickets as soon as possible, before Thursday, in order to help with the catering arrangements. Also, please do say if you have dietary requirements.

Fire Pit Gathering - If you fancy an hour or so of outdoor spirituality, come and join me (Hilary) round the fire pit at my place in East Holme on Sunday 21st April at 4pm. (Message me for directions if you have not been before.) We will share words, silence, the beauty of creation, tea, and cake. All welcome. feel free to bring your own comfy outdoor chair and a mug; and cosy clothes - it can still be chilly when the sun dips behind the trees. As we head towards summer we are going to think a little about life, beauty, and abundance. Hope to see some of you there.



Prayer Focus:

We give thanks to God for

- Your Son, Jesus Christ, once rejected, becoming the cornerstone of redemption and salvation, the cornerstone of our lives. We embrace your presence, adding strength and purpose for us every day.
- Jesus, the Good Shepherd watching over us in all we experience. Never leaving us, you are at our side guiding and encouraging us throughout our whole Christian journey towards salvation.
- Bestowing upon our patron Saint, St. George, the strength, and constancy which he sustained for our faith. Please guard our convictions against doubt that we may serve you sincerely and faithfully.
- Your grace empowering St. Mark to become a great evangelist, preaching, illuminating, and interpreting the good news of Christ. May we grow to know St. Mark so that we may live as true followers of Christ.

We pray to God for:

- All who labour to restore and replenish the environment, to turn around years of exploitation and bring hope and light to the World. We pray for your grace as we seek to fulfil our stewardship responsibilities towards creation.
- Equitable and sustainable sharing of God-given, human-made, and natural resources so that we can all live in contentment, harmony, and the grace of the abundant mercy of the Lord.
- The needs of all peoples: peace throughout the World and food, shelter, and safety for the hungry and homeless. May we love our neighbours as we would hope to be loved. Help us to be your hands and feet on Earth, bringing hope and help for those most in need.
- We pray to God that we may show our praise, not only through our lips, but by our lives, giving up ourselves to your service and by walking with you in holiness and righteousness.

Those asking for prayer:

Jane Patterson, John Cleaton, Terry Holloway, Rose Diment, Mary Binks, Anne Mills, Peter Wood

Those who have died recently and those who mourn: Christine Crowther, (Funeral service to take place at Lady St Mary Monday 22nd April at 12 noon), Eric Mills (Funeral service to take place at Lady St Mary Friday 26th April at 2pm)

Our Mission Prayer: Paul Modi has celebrated 10 years as Bishop of Terekeka Diocese in South Sudan with St Stephen's School. *Heavenly Father, breathe love into lives ruled by fear: soften hearts hardened by pride: whisper gently to those bound by chains: sow peace where conflict divides. For Jesus' sake. Amen*

Parish Prayer Meetings Now that the evenings are lighter, we will be meeting in person in one of our homes every Tuesday at 7.30 pm, except for the 3rd week of each month when we will be in Sandford St Martin's Church on the Wednesday*. We will ensure that we are on Zoom so that those unable to come in person will still be able to participate. The Zoom link on the weekly notice sheet will be emailed out each Friday or contact Debs at the Parish Office Tel: 550905. All are welcome to join us to pray. Please see dates below:

Month	Meetings in person or by Zoom (if required) on Tuesdays	3 rd Wednesday Sandford Prayer*
April	9 th , 23 rd , 30 th	17 th

Prayers for Peace Jesus said, 'There will be wars and rumours of wars... Nations will rise against nations, and kingdom against kingdom. There will be famines and earthquakes in various places.' We do not have to look too far to see this prophecy fulfilled and with open warfare persisting in many parts of the world and political tensions elsewhere it is easy to feel helpless. However, as a church the one thing we can do, and must do, is pray. Prayers for peace are said most days in Lady St Mary church at 5pm it is a time when we can pray for the needs of the world.



Confirmation Classes - Are you interested in confirmation classes or exploring your faith?



We have some people that are interested but it would be nice to have a group of people so if you would like to find out more, please talk to a member of the Ministry Team.

GREEN TIP - nettles in the garden can be really beneficial to wildlife. They also make an excellent nitrogen-rich plant food. Fill a bucket with nettles and then pour water onto it. Let it stand for a couple of weeks and dilute the resulting liquid to feed plants in pots and borders.



Readings for Daily Morning Prayer:

***Indicates Festival**

	Psalm (s)	Old Testament	New Testament
Monday 22nd April	103	Exodus 32:1-14	Luke 2:41-end
Tuesday 23rd April*	5	Joshua 1:1-9	Ephesians 6:10-20
Wednesday 24th April	135	Exodus 33	Luke 3:39-56
Thursday 25th April*	37	Isaiah 62:6-10	Acts 12:25-13:13
Friday 26th April	33	Exodus 35:20-36:7	Luke 4:14-30
Saturday 27th April	34	Exodus 40:17-end	Luke 4:31-37

Parish Office - The Parish Office is open on **Monday, Wednesday, and Friday** 9am to 1pm. At all other times enquiries and queries can be made by email and they will be dealt with as soon as possible.



Contact details: www.warehamchurches.org.uk Tel: 01929 550905,

Email: parish.office@warehamchurches.org.uk Address: Parish Office, Church Green, Wareham BH20 4ND

Giving to the work of our churches - By using this QR code you can donate to the work of our churches; no donation is too small! Every little help to carry out God's work here in Wareham. **Thank you so much for donating.**



Clergy Team Team Rector, The Reverend Canon Simon Everett

Tel: 01929 289236 Email: rector@warehamchurches.org.uk

Team Vicar, The Reverends Neil Kelly and Deborah Swann

Tel: 01929 208400 Email: neilkelly3@icloud.com and debjswann@gmail.com

Schools Worker and Pioneer Priest, The Reverend Hilary Bond

Tel: 01929 551219 Email: hilary.bond@me.com

PtO The Reverend Michael Young

Tel: 01929 552582 Email: myng220@btopenworld.com

