

This week's services

Sunday 28th April

10.30am, Holy Communion, CW, Ramsden
Benefice Service



Sunday 5th May

9.00am, Holy Communion, BCP, Ramsden
10.30am, Holy Communion, CW, Leaffield



Friday 3rd May

St James' Church, Ramsden

12.30pm

Join us for a simple lunch of soup, bread and cheese

Meet friends and neighbours

And raise some money for charity



The veil of darkness
Transformed to the brightest light.

The most dreadful end
Became the most beautiful beginning.

The depths of despair
Fade to reveal hope everlasting.

The curse of death
Defeated by eternal life.

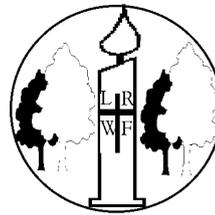
Thank you Lord, for the wonder of Easter



***If we as a Church can help in any way,
please contact:***

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PEW SHEET

**2nd Sunday of
Easter
28th April 2019**

***Please take this pew sheet with
you when you leave***



A loop system for the hard of hearing is fitted
in all our churches
(with the exception of St Peter's, Wilcote)

Benefice website:

<http://www.forestedgebenefice.co.uk>

The 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.

***First Reading
Acts 5: 27-32 †***

When they had brought them, they had
them stand before the council. The high
priest questioned them, saying, 'We gave
you strict orders not to teach in this name,
yet here you have filled Jerusalem with
your teaching and you are determined to
bring this man's blood on us.' But Peter
and the apostles answered, 'We must obey
God rather than any human authority. The
God of our ancestors raised up Jesus,
whom you had killed by hanging him on a
tree. God exalted him at his right hand as
Leader and Saviour, so that he might give
repentance to Israel and forgiveness of
sins. And we are witnesses to these things,
and so is the Holy Spirit whom God has
given to those who obey him.'

Gospel Reading **John 20: 19-end**

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.' After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, 'Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.' When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, 'Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.' But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. 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.' 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.' 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.' Thomas answered him, 'My Lord and my God!' 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.' Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. 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.



How often when weary do we sigh 'The spirit is willing, but the body is weak.' How often when in prayer are thoughts distracted by sounds or circumstance, or prayers diverted by trivial concerns. Baggage carried with us rather than left at your feet. How often do we find ourselves apologising to you, for our abbreviated prayer life. And yet you draw us still to be in your presence, as you did the disciples at Gethsemane. You want us to share in your life, to play our part. You told your disciples to watch and pray so that they might not fall into temptation. Do you ask the same of us and do we also fail you, each time we whisper 'The spirit is willing, but the body is weak'? Grant us the strength, Lord, of body and of spirit, to offer you the sacrifice of our lives.

We are often not the Easter People
that we should be,
living in the certain knowledge
of your great mercy and love.
Distracted by the world around us
we fail to hear your voice,
or hide when faith is challenged
as we wander off the path.
Forgive us, we pray;
restore the love that we first had,
a faith that can endure.
We will keep our eyes fixed on you, Lord,
and with you at our right hand
we shall not be shaken.
Amen

These Bible readings are designated for each day

Monday	<i>Ephesians 6: 10-20</i>
Tuesday	<i>Acts 12: 25-13.13</i>
Wednesday	<i>James 1: 1-12</i>
Thursday	<i>John 21: 1-14</i>
Friday	<i>John 21: 15-19</i>
Saturday	<i>John 21: 20-end</i>

Please pray for the following throughout the week

Monday *Those who are sick or grieving within our community.*
Tuesday *Those who are suffering in this country and around the world.*
Wednesday *The Queen and other leaders in this country.*
Thursday *For the troubled areas around the world, we pray for peace and justice.*
Friday *For the ministry of the Forest Edge Benefice and for those who lead us.*
Saturday *For an abundance of love, peace, harmony and forgiveness to reign within families and relationships.*

Please also pray for the Chipping Norton Deanery.

