

The Second Sunday of Easter

Collect

Risen Christ, for whom no door is locked, no entrance barred:
open the doors of our hearts, that we may seek the good of others
and walk the joyful road of sacrifice and peace,
to the praise of God the Father. **Amen.**

Today's Readings

Acts 5: 27-32 Psalm 118: 14-end
Revelation 1: 4-8 John 20: 19-end

Post 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. **Amen.**

Baptism Preparation – Prayer for April

***Loving father, bless this family with the ability to love unconditionally even
in the hardest moments. Help them realise what Jesus gave up so that they
can know love and life. Amen.***

Book: No Matter What

***Please pray for the people that live in Oaklands Care Home in our parish
and for the people who care for them.***

**Gluten Free Wafers - whenever the Eucharist is celebrated gluten free wafers will be
available.**

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**Please email any notices and items for this weekly newsletter to Lindsey in the
parish office by Thursday for printing on Fridays. Thank you.**
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Sunday 27th April 2025

Newsletter

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SERVICES AT CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION – APRIL

Sunday 27 April

10am Sung Eucharist

Monday 28 April

10.30am Funeral Service of Roger Bakewell

5pm Evening Prayer

7pm Prayer and Praise at Fr Mel's
Tel: 07899 945935...for if you can't find it!

Tuesday 29 April

5pm Soul Food

5pm Evening Prayer

7.30pm Annual Meeting

Wednesday 30 April

10am Midweek Eucharist with Hymns and Songs

5pm Evening Prayer

Thursday 1st May

10am Mainly Music

1.15pm Church of the Ascension School - Year 4 Experience

Sunday 4 May

10am Morning Prayer

All are welcome to Morning Prayer at St Mary's
at 8.30am on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday this week.

Pray for our sick and those who care for them: Evelyn, Pat Hughes, Bob, Carol, Steph Randall, Pam, Fran and Peter, Tim Dalloway, Anne-Marie, Chris Hemsley, Angela, Winnifred Quirke, Winston Sharpe, Reagan, Carole, Carol, Lainey, Edna Barlow, Phil Mayhew, Mike, Henry, Samantha Hart, Brian Genner, Liz Cross, Sarah, Denise, Harold, Craig Stevens, Kirsty.

MU Members, especially the house bound.

Recently Departed: Diane Smith, Thomas Smith, John Thompson, Roger Bakewell, Jean Bengree, Kevin Cook.

Fr. Mel's Prayer Meeting is back to fortnightly meetings from this Monday April 28th at the usual time of 7pm. Everyone welcome!

Annual Meetings The annual meeting for Church of the Ascension will be on **Tuesday 29 April at 7.30pm** in church. Please do your best to attend this important meeting.

Our annual parish meeting will then be on **Wednesday 28 May at 7.30pm** in church. Again, please do your best to attend this important meeting.

Have you considered being a school governor? A vacancy will arise in September for someone from our church community to be on the school board at Church of the Ascension C.E. Primary School to support and act as a "critical friend" alongside staff and parents. It involves three evening meetings each term, with training provided, and is a very rewarding activity. Please speak to Fr Adam or Chris, Sheila or Mary if you would like to know more.

Ascension Day Our patronal Eucharist for Ascension Day will be at Church of the Ascension at **7pm on Thursday 29 May**. Archdeacon Nikki will be leading the service and there will be cheese and wine in the hall afterwards. All are very welcome and please spread the word!

Fr Chris' Priesting and first Mass Everyone is welcome to attend Worcester Cathedral on **Saturday 28 June at 2pm** when Fr Chris will be ordained as a Priest by Bishop Martin. The following day on **Sunday 29 June at 11am** (note the time change) will be the first time that Fr Chris presides at the Eucharist and this service will be at St Mary's followed by a bring a share lunch in the hall. Fr Rob Jones, the former Archdeacon of Worcester, will be preaching. Please do come and support Fr Chris during these two exceptionally important days for him and the church.

Did you know that Earth Day 2025 was on Tuesday 22nd April?

Grace is working to achieve our Bronze Award in Eco Church. If you would like to join a focus group on any of the following please let her know:

Worship & Teaching
Land & Nature

Buildings & Energy
Community Engagement and Lifestyle.

PARISH RENEWAL AND DEVELOPMENT

So, we're encouraging each other to begin to think new thoughts about the future of our two church congregations. But what about our past? Where we are now and where we're heading in the future all has its roots in our past.

Do you have memories of what it used to be like at St Mary's and/or The Ascension? Do you have old photographs? What do you remember about past clergy and lay leaders in the churches? And would you like an opportunity to share them?

Next week there'll be a board in each church where you can write up your memories and pin them up for all to see and the same with your photographs.