

St Matthias & St George Parish Church.
A member of "Christ the King" team ministry
Sunday 24th April 2022, 2nd Sunday of Easter.

Jesus Christ is risen, hallelujah: He is risen indeed, hallelujah

Jesus said to Thomas, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe." John 20 v 29

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[Helen Laird Mission Enabler](#)

Covid safety measures: We are still encouraging the use of face coverings in church and also maintaining social distancing as Covid precautions

Today's service is Informal Holy Communion at 4.00 pm.

Weekday services this week are at:

- 10am, Tuesday April 27th, Traditional Language Eucharist at Ss Matthias & George, Astwood Bank.
- 10 am, Thursday 29th, Mass at St. Peter's, Crabbs Cross.
- Next Sunday 4pm, May 1st, Holy Communion at Astwood Bank

Additional online services.

- Accompany Fr Glenn as he streams Sunday Evening Prayer on our Facebook page. **This service is uploaded on line from 3pm each Sunday, but should you wish to join in the feel of a communal service, then we suggest you watch and listen with others at 6pm.**
- Mthr Victoria will be offering live Compline on **Thursdays**, Just press ctrl plus click on the following link which will take you to the Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/victoria.barlow.750>

We pray for those who are sick: Rosie, Alex, Jean, Margaret Emms, Marion, Alexei, Dora, Margaret Savage, Carol, Carla, Carole, Tim, Jon & Naomi, Colin, Steven, Christopher, Arthur Hind.

Foodbank: Any food or toiletry donations to be given to families supported by Redditch Homestart will be most gratefully received, and should be placed in the blue box at the rear of church.

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead." 1 Peter 1:3

The monthly pattern of services Ss Matthias & George is as follows.

- 1st Sunday 4pm, Common Holy Communion
- 2nd Sunday 4pm, Common Holy Communion
- 3rd Sunday **10.30am**, Common Holy Communion
- 4th Sunday 4pm, **Informal Holy Communion**



Church Flowers: Thanks go to Rhonda and her floral team for their beautiful decoration of the church and to all those who contributed foliage and donations towards this.

Do you fancy 'Open the Book'? –

Please let Mthr Victoria or Fiona Carter know if you'd like to be part of an 'Open the Book' group, initially to work in Astwood Bank School.

Coffee Stop Please see Mthr Victoria if you're prepared to sign up for the '**Coffee stop**' starting on **May 4th between 1.30 pm and 3pm** There are lots of jobs available so the more help the merrier.

A Prayer for Easter: God of Glory, by the raising of your Son you have broken the chains of death and hell: fill your Church with faith and hope; for a new day has dawned and the way to life stands open in our Saviour Jesus Christ Amen © Archbishops' Council of the Church of England

A Prayer for Ukraine: As the war in Ukraine intensifies, let us pray to the Risen Lord and ask for his help, guidance and compassion.

Loving God, we pray for the people of Ukraine, for all those suffering or afraid, that you will be close to them and protect them. We pray for world leaders, for compassion, strength and wisdom to guide their choices. We pray for the world that in this moment of crisis, we may reach out in solidarity to our brothers and sisters in need. May we walk in your ways so that peace and justice become a reality for the people of Ukraine and for all the world. Amen.

Doubting Thomas *"Thomas has been chosen from among the Twelve to dramatise the disbelief of the group. The refusal of the disciples to believe the testimony of those who had seen the risen Lord is a common feature of the gospel tradition (Matt 28:17; Mark 16:11, 14; Luke 24:36–43 John alone has chosen Thomas to represent and symbolise this doubt." Ryan Nelson*

Poor old Thomas, to go down in posterity in order to symbolise the doubt in Christ's resurrection, it doesn't seem fair. And the possibility is that Thomas

EASTER... CONTINUES... ALLELUIA! Easter is a fifty day season, continuing right up until Pentecost and including the feast of the Ascension. Please keep the Joy of the Risen Lord in your hearts and prayers, and keep the feast! ALLELUIA! Thank you to you all for all the part you have played in this Lent, Holy Week and Eastertide – for the serving, loving, praying and all the many ways you bless this church, the benefice and circuit and its community. Wonderful worship was raised over Holy week, with people gathering together in the various churches of the benefice to worship together – Good Friday saw people from each church gathered together at SSMG - such a powerful image of Christ's Body here on earth. Easter Joy was raised with many Alleluia! Do continue to pray for each other, and celebrate



wasn't his name! Thomas is an Aramaic word meaning twin, as is the Greek word didymos by which he's called in some Gospel passages. Perhaps he's referred to as Thomas because he was a twin and is never actually given a name.

Concert with Mthr v & Oakville 7pm 14th May. The Choir Mthr V accompanies, 'oakville', and in which Judith and Sebastian Grubb and Hannah Barlow sing, will be holding a concert here at the Bridge on Saturday 14th May at 7pm, partly to celebrate the 'end' of Mthr V's curacy now she has been signed off and the time spent here in Redditch. An evening of gentle smiles, a little singing for you all, lots of wonderful secular and sacred choral music to listen to, and tea and cake... donations welcome, but no entry charge and all welcome, and your friends – do spread the word.

Please give notices for inclusion in next week's Spotlight to Richard Porteous by next Thursday on 01527 542620 or at richardporteous@yahoo.co.uk