



*St* HELEN'S CHURCH  
ABINGDON-ON-THAMES

---

Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> April, 2026

Easter 2

This Sunday, the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Easter, also known as Low Sunday, marks the appearance of the risen Jesus to his fearful disciples.

Just last week, we celebrated Christ's resurrection from the depths of death, today, our reading in John 20 details Jesus appearing to the disciples in the locked room; on seeing the marks of crucifixion they recognise him as the Lord.

Do we always recognise the presence of Christ in our lives?

Each Sunday as we each offer the sign of Peace to our fellow Christians, we mirror Jesus in the locked upper room as He offers His peace to the disciples.

Each year, as we transition from barren winter to the vibrancy of spring, as we see the emergence of new life, we remember Christ's resurrection and promise of eternal life. Our Christian life, like the smallest mustard seed, can be productive, we too can create new disciples. As we plant the seed of faith, we can support and nurture others as they explore and grow in faith.

Spring symbolizes hope, spiritual growth, and renewal in Christ as life transitions from dormancy to rejuvenation. (2 Corinthians 5:17)

Last Saturday, as fellow Christians we stood together to renew our baptismal vows, reaffirming our personal commitment to Christ; as we move forward in faith and reflect on our lives and relationships, we too can follow Christ's lead, hold out the hand of fellowship to those we meet, go forward in the peace of Christ.

Linda Hobbs L.L.M.

**WELCOME** to St Helen's this Sunday. 8.00am *Holy Communion (1662) with hymns.*  
10.30am *Sung Eucharist* followed by ADCM. 5.30 pm *Taizé.*

The 10.30 am service at St Helen's today can be accessed on Zoom from 10.15 am on:  
Meeting ID: 865 5159 6523; Passcode: 626891.

### **FOR TODAY'S SERVICE**

**Readings:** Acts 2:14a, 22-32; 1 Peter 1:3-9; John 20:19-end.

**Service Setting:** Tambling, Holy Trinity Service

#### **Hymns:**

Processional: 148 Jesus lives, thy terrors now

Gradual: 157 The day of resurrection

Offertory: 150 Love's redeeming work is done

Communion hymn: 153 Now the green blade riseth

Post communion: 156 Sing choirs of heaven

**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. **Amen.**

#### **Psalm: 16 Response: In your presence is the fullness of joy**

I have set the Lord always before me:  
he is at my right hand, and I shall not fall.  
Therefore my heart is glad and my spirit rejoices:  
my flesh also shall rest secure. **Response**

For you will not give me over to the power of death:  
Not suffer your faithful one to see the Pit.  
You will show me the path of life:  
in your presence is the fullness of joy,  
and from your right hand flow delights for evermore. **Response**

### **THE COMING WEEK AT ST HELEN'S**

**ON WEEKDAYS** 9.10 am *Morning Prayer.*

**ON MONDAY** 1.45-3.30pm *Volunteer Group Meeting* in the Centre Lounge.

**ON TUESDAY** 5pm – 8.30pm *Yellow Submarine Group* in the Centre Hall 6 – 8.30pm  
*Baptism preparation* in the Centre Lounge

**ON WEDNESDAY** 10.30am *Holy Communion.* 5.15-6.15pm *Beavers* 6.30-8pm *Cubs* in the  
Centre Hall 7.45pm *Marriage Consultation*

**ON THURSDAY** 6.15-8.00pm *Life Drawing Class* in the Hall.

**ON FRIDAY** 4.00pm *Abingdon School Bell Club* in the church. 5.00pm *Young Ringers Practice* in the church. 5.30pm *Choir Practice* in the church.

**ON SATURDAY** 7.30pm *Concert of Celtic songs and music* in the church

**ON SUNDAY** 8.00am *Holy Communion (1662) with hymns*. 10.30am *Sung Eucharist*. 5.30pm *Service of readings and music for Eastertide*.

## PROGRAMMES, EVENTS & NOTICES

The April edition of the Parish magazine, 'A Candle in the Window' is available from Easter Day. Download from [https://abingdonparish.org.uk/P\\_window.php](https://abingdonparish.org.uk/P_window.php)  
Do read, discuss and even enjoy!

**A concert of Celtic music**, including songs and music for guitar, violin and tin whistle, will be given by professional singer, Valentine Roland, on **Sat 18<sup>th</sup> April at 7.30pm in St Helen's Church**. Tickets are £10 (under 16 free) and are available online at Ticketsource, from the Bookstore, in church after the 10.30 service and at the door. The church is 'promoting' this concert and will receive half of the net proceeds, so do come and support Valentine and the church.

**Moving into Stillness:** circle dancing at St Michael and All Angels on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> April in the church beginning at 11 am. Elizabeth Mitchell will be the teacher. No prior experience/partner needed. Parking permits are available for use in Park Road. **Please note the changes of date and room for April.**

### It's nomination and election time!

The St. Helen's Annual District Church Meeting (the ADCM) will be held on Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> April, in church after the 10.30 service. This is when we elect Wardens, Pro-wardens, members of the Parish Church Council, Deanery Synod and the District Church Council. These are all important posts/councils in the running of St Helen's and the parish, and we need people to step up to the job. It's a great way to get involved in church life, to get to know others both in St Helen's and across the parish. With, we hope, the appointment of a Team Vicar in June it will be a time of new beginnings and ways of working across the parish - a great time to get involved in church planning. If you would like to stand for any of these posts, please add your name to the lists on the Welcome desk, and ask someone to propose and second you.

**Open Church Stewarding.** If you have been thinking this is something you could do to support the outreach of St Helen's church family please talk to me, Elizabeth Simpson, after the service, or email me on [simpsonem123@gmail.com](mailto:simpsonem123@gmail.com). With thanks.

**Thank you** to all those who contributed towards the cost of flowers in church for Easter and those who arranged them so beautifully.

**The Parish office telephone** is now working.

## For prayer

- For all areas of the world torn apart by war, conflict and persecution.
- For those who are homeless or without adequate accommodation
- For the lonely and isolated
- For those awaiting diagnosis and treatment
- For our young people preparing for examinations

Please pray for the residents of The Square, The Warren, Thesiger Road, Thornley Close.  
Intercessory prayer requests to [clairembolton@googlemail.com](mailto:clairembolton@googlemail.com).

**For health, consolation & wellbeing:** Sarah Stevens, Katie Stuart, Alli, David, Anne Smithson, Loelia Lyon, Vanessa Madden.

**Next week's readings:** Acts 2:14a, 36-41; 1 Peter 1:17-23; Luke 24:13-35.

Team Rector	The Revd Dr Jennifer Brown rector@abingdonparish.org.uk
Team Vicar	Vacant
Associate Priest	The Revd Dr A. K. M. Adam (AKMA) akma@sthelens-abingdon.org.uk
Wardens	Ms Margaret Horton and Mr David Pope
Director of Music	Dr Peter Foster
Assistant Organist	Mr Andrew Shouler
Parish Administrator	Vacant
Caretaker	Mr Robin Day
Parish Safeguarding	Mrs Pat Hudson safeguarding@abingdonparish.org.uk
St Helen's Safeguarding	Mr Emmanuel Chukwuma

The Parish Office is open Monday – Thursday, 10.00 am to 1.00 pm (closed on Fridays).

Phone: 01235 520144. Checked on Fridays, morning and afternoon.

E-mail: [administrator@sthelens-abingdon.org.uk](mailto:administrator@sthelens-abingdon.org.uk); Website: [abingdonparish.org.uk/StH](http://abingdonparish.org.uk/StH)

**A copy of this Newsletter is posted regularly on our website.**