

**ARCH Group's aim: "To show our love for God and You"**

**Weekly Notices**

**4<sup>th</sup> April 2021**

**Easter Sunday**

**Today's Collect**

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.

**Today's Post Communion Prayer**

God of Life, who for our redemption gave your only-begotten Son to the death of the cross, and by his glorious resurrection have delivered us from the power of our enemy: grant us so to die daily to sin, that we may evermore live with him in the joy of his risen life; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**For Prayer**

Resurrection God, to you this Easter Day we bring our prayers for those whose lives touch ours however constantly or fleetingly, for all are your children and for all of them you gave your life and this day give your rising.

We, with the world's people, have travelled a tough and painful pandemic year, sharing burdens, pains, fears, confusion, anger and death, and through it all you have walked with us. For all those who have not felt your presence, who do not feel your presence, did not feel your guiding hand, the warmth of your breath, the calming of your words, the sureness of your step,  
For them all in this moment:  
Resurrection God, we pray.

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For all people of faith, especially at this Eastertide, striving for peace and companionship, striving for harmony and meaning.

For them all in this moment:

Resurrection God, we pray.

For those who we wish we could share with on this Easter Day, for our family members and friends who find themselves, once again, home alone with no-one to crack open the Easter egg with, no one to marvel at the spring flowers and transforming butterflies with, no one to laugh with as they watch gambolling lambs and sweet chirruping chicks

For them all in this moment:

Resurrection God, we pray.

For this is Easter and you are our risen God and in you we trust, into your care we recommit ourselves and all those on our hearts today.

Hallelujah, Halleluia, Amen.

### **This Week's First Reading:** *Isaiah 25:6-9*

<sup>6</sup>On this mountain the LORD of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of rich food, a feast of well-matured wines, of rich food filled with marrow, of well-matured wines strained clear. <sup>7</sup>And he will destroy on this mountain the shroud that is cast over all peoples, the sheet that is spread over all nations; <sup>8</sup>he will swallow up death for ever. Then the Lord GOD will wipe away the tears from all faces, and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth, for the LORD has spoken. <sup>9</sup>It will be said on that day, Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might save us. This is the LORD for whom we have waited; let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.

### **This Week's Psalm:** *Psalms 118:14-24*

14 The Lord is my strength and my song, and he has become my salvation.

15 Joyful shouts of salvation sound from the tents of the righteous:

## *Psalm 118:14-24 continued*

- 16 'The right hand of the Lord does mighty deeds; the right hand of the Lord raises up; the right hand of the Lord does mighty deeds.'
- 17 I shall not die, but live and declare the works of the Lord.
- 18 The Lord has punished me sorely, but he has not given me over to death.
- 19 Open to me the gates of righteousness, that I may enter and give thanks to the Lord.
- 20 This is the gate of the Lord; the righteous shall enter through it.
- 21 I will give thanks to you, for you have answered me and have become my salvation.
- 22 The stone which the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.
- 23 **This is the Lord's doing, and it is marvellous in our eyes.**
- 24 This is the day that the Lord has made; we will rejoice and be glad in it.

## **This Week's Second Reading:** *Acts 10:34-43*

<sup>34</sup>Peter began to speak to those assembled in the house of Cornelius. 'I truly understand that God shows no partiality, <sup>35</sup>but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. <sup>36</sup>You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ – he is Lord of all. <sup>37</sup>That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: <sup>38</sup>how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. <sup>39</sup>We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; <sup>40</sup>but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, <sup>41</sup>not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. <sup>42</sup>He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. <sup>43</sup>All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins **through his name.'**

## **This Week's Gospel Reading:** *John 20:1-18*

<sup>1</sup>Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. <sup>2</sup>So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, **'They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him.'** <sup>3</sup>Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went towards the tomb. <sup>4</sup>The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. <sup>5</sup>He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. <sup>6</sup>Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, <sup>7</sup>and the **cloth that had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen wrappings** but rolled up in a place by itself. <sup>8</sup>Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; <sup>9</sup>for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. <sup>10</sup>Then the disciples returned to their homes.

<sup>11</sup>But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; <sup>12</sup>and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. <sup>13</sup>**They said to her, 'Woman, why are you weeping?' She said to them, 'They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him.'** <sup>14</sup>When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. <sup>15</sup>Jesus said to her, **'Woman, why are you weeping? For whom are you looking?'** Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, **'Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away.'** <sup>16</sup>Jesus said to her, **'Mary!'** She turned and said to him in Hebrew, **'Rabbouni!'** which means Teacher. <sup>17</sup>Jesus said to her, **'Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, "I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God."'** <sup>18</sup>Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, **'I have seen the Lord';** and she told them that he had said these things to her.