

April Readings and Prayers

Prayers for the Week

Monday 1st Psalm 117, Exodus 12.1-14, I Corinthians 15.1-11

Lord, we have come to praise you for life and all the good things of life. We thank you for the world in which we live, and for the variety of colours and shapes all around us.

Tuesday 2nd Psalm 112, Exodus 12.14-36, I Corinthians 15.12-19

Lord, we praise you for those who love us and those whom we are called to love. Thank you for those who serve us and help us.

Wednesday 3rd Psalm 113, Exodus 12.37-end, I Corinthians 15.20-28

Lord, thank you for sending us to offer love and care to our neighbour. Thank you for those moments of joy, peace and hope which flood into our hearts.

Thursday 4th Psalm 114, Exodus 13.1-16, I Corinthians 15.29-34

Lord, thank you that you fill each day with new reasons to turn and give you thanks and praise

Friday 5th Psalm 115, Exodus 13.17-14.14, I Corinthians 15.35-50

Lord, we thank you for Jesus, for his life on earth and for all the things he said and did that mean that we can't ignore your love for us all.

Saturday 6th Psalm 116, Exodus 14.15-end, I Corinthians 15.51-end

Lord, thank you for the coming of the Holy Spirit to touch and change our lives. Thank you that he empowers us for worship and gives us the courage to tell others about you.

Sunday 7th April Easter 2. Acts 4: 32-35 and John 20: 19-end

Prayer for the Day (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.

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.

Prayers for the Week

Monday 8th April Annunciation of Our Lord to the Blessed Virgin Mary

Psalm 111, I Samuel 2.1-10, Romans 5.12-21

Jesus, as a mother you gather your people to you: you are gentle with us like a mother with her children, caring and loving us.

Tuesday 9th Psalm 8, Exodus 15.22-16.10, Colossians 1.15-end

Jesus, you weep over our sins and our pride: tenderly you draw us from hatred and judgement, and gently lead us back on the right path.

Wednesday 10th Psalm 16, Exodus 16.11-end, Colossians 2.1-15

Jesus, you comfort us in sorrow and bind up our wounds: in sickness you nurse us and with pure milk you feed us, you are there constantly for us.

Thursday 11th Psalm 28, Exodus 17, Colossians 2.16-3.11

Jesus, by your dying we are born to new life: by your anguish and labour we come forth in joy, to enjoy the freedom you bring.

Friday 12th Psalm 57, Exodus 18.1-12, Colossians 3.12-4.1

Jesus, despair turns to hope through your sweet goodness: through your gentleness we find comfort in fear, your warmth gives us life, and your touch makes sinners righteous.

Saturday 13th Psalm 63, Exodus 18.13-end, Colossians 4.2-end

Jesus, in your compassion bring grace and forgiveness, and for the beauty of heaven may you love and prepare us, ready to meet you when that time comes.

Sunday 14th April Easter 3. Acts 3: 12-18 and Luke 24: 36b-48

Prayer for the Day (Collect)

Risen Christ, you filled your disciples with boldness and fresh hope: strengthen us to proclaim your risen life and fill us with your peace, to the glory of God the Father.

Post Communion

Living God, your Son made himself known to his disciples in the breaking of bread: open the eyes of our faith, that we may see him in all his redeeming work; who is alive and reigns, now and for ever.

Prayers for the Week

Monday 15th Psalm 96, Exodus 19, Luke 1.1-25

Where kindness is treated as weakness or rejected through lack of grace, forgive us for not understanding the gifts of your Spirit.

Tuesday 16th Psalm 98, Exodus 20.1-21, Luke 1.26-38

Where goodness is crucified by the power-hungry and passes unrecognised by a noisy, busy world, forgive us for losing sight of the gifts of your Spirit.

Wednesday 17th Psalm 105, Exodus 24, Luke 1.39-56

Where faithfulness is abandoned and no one trusts another anymore, forgive us for wiping out the gifts of your Spirit.

Thursday 18th Psalm 136, Exodus 25.1-22, Luke 1.57-end

Where gentleness is ridiculed and people build their lives round aggression, forgive us for misrepresenting the gifts of your Spirit.

Friday 19th Psalm 107, Exodus 28.1-4a, 29-38, Luke 2.1-20

Where we lose self-control, giving in to the violence of our emotions, forgive us for not trusting the gifts of your Spirit.

Saturday 20th Psalm 108, Exodus 29.1-9, Luke 2.21-40

Holy Spirit, forgive us our rejection of your riches; open the hearts of nations and peoples to receive love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control, but start with us!

Sunday 21st April Easter 4. Acts 4: 5-12 and John 21: 11-18

Prayer for the Day (Collect)

Risen Christ, faithful shepherd of your Father's sheep: teach us to hear your voice and to follow your command, that all your people may be gathered into one flock, to the glory of God the Father.

Post Communion

Merciful Father, you gave your Son Jesus Christ to be the good shepherd, and in his love for us to lay down his life and rise again: keep us always under his protection, and give us grace to follow in his steps; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Prayers for the Week

Monday 22nd Psalm 103, Exodus 32.1-14, Luke 2.41-end

Lord, we praise you, the Lord of all wonder and life. We rejoice that with you nothing is impossible and that even before we knew it you were touching our lives and preparing them to be filled with your love.

**Tuesday 23rd St George, Martyr, Patron of England,
Psalm 5, Joshua 1.1-9, Ephesians 6.10-2**

We praise you for your Holy Spirit, who opens our eyes to see the world, not only as it really is but also as you meant it to be.

Wednesday 24th Psalm 135, Exodus 33, Luke 3.15-22

We praise you that your presence and power still transform the world, and the lives of your people, that your being with us still gives new meaning to all that we do.

Thursday 25th Mark the Evangelist

Psalm 37.23-41, Isaiah 62.6-10, Acts 12.25 - 13.13

We praise you for the light and the peace with which you flood our lives and for the truth that makes each day worthwhile.

Friday 26th Psalm 33, Exodus 35.20-36.7, Luke 4.14-30

We praise you for the Christ who came and the Christ who still comes. We praise you for the Christ who will come again.

Saturday 27th Psalm 34, Exodus 40.17-end, Luke 4.31-37

We praise you for coming to us in the hustle and bustle of life every day. No matter who we are or what we are doing or facing your almighty presence and power lifts us and changes us.

Sunday 28th April Easter 5. Acts 8: 26-end and John 15: 1-8

Prayer for the Day (Collect)

Risen Christ, your wounds declare your love for the world and the wonder of your risen life: give us compassion and courage to risk ourselves for those we serve, to the glory of God the Father.

Post Communion

Eternal God, whose Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life: grant us to walk in his way, to rejoice in his truth, and to share his risen life; who is alive and reigns, now and for ever.

Prayers for the Week

Monday 29th Psalm 145, Numbers 9.15-end & 10.33-end, Luke 4.38-end

Father, forgive us that we fill our minds with many things that cause us hurt or confusion instead of focusing our attention on Jesus.

Tuesday 30th Psalm 19, Numbers 11.1-33, Luke 5.1-11

Father, we confess that we make space in our lives for the things we want to do, and then we pretend we are too busy to serve you.