

All Saints' Church

Cottenham with Rampton



Pastoral Letter #54

31st March 2021

Dear Church Family,

As we continue through Holy Week, don't forget the following ways you can engage with one of the most vital times of the Christian year:

- The All-Age Holy Week Pilgrimage (in the local area) – attached to last week's church email
- Ribbons and tree reflections in the Churchyard
- Contributing to the Easter Garden in the churchyard with a pot plant
- Maundy Thursday Service tomorrow on Zoom at 7pm
- Service on Good Friday in both churches at midday
- Online recorded service for Good Friday.

If you are joining the Maundy Thursday service online, you might like to have some bread, a drink and a lit candle to hand. We will not be sharing Communion but the items will help you engage with the readings.

I am looking forward to welcoming you all back to church for Easter. Services on Easter Day at Cottenham take place at 8.30am and 10.30am, and at Rampton at 4pm. With many of you having had your first vaccination and safety measures remaining in place, it would be lovely to see you. If you're coming to All Saints' Cottenham, please do bring a flower to attach to the central cross in the Easter Garden. There will be an online service for those unable to come in person but there will **not** be Coffee and Chat this week on Zoom.

I will be on leave the week after Easter. If you need clergy support, please contact one of the churchwardens (Graham Appleby and Chris Lowe) in the first instance.

You will be pleased to know that The Venerable Dr Alex Hughes, Archdeacon of Cambridge, will be taking the services on Sunday 11th of April at both 8.30am and 10.30am. There will be no online service for that week, but there will be coffee and chat hosted by Alison Wedgbury at the later time of 12 midday.

An Easter poem for you:

Jesus in the Locked Room, by Amy Scott Robinson

Jesus in the garden, newly risen from the dead,
who stood by weeping Mary, and who heard the words she said
as if you were the gardener, till at last your shepherd's voice
called her 'Mary' and with one word gave her reason to rejoice,
Jesus in the garden, ever new but still the same,
help me recognise you in the speaking of my name.

Jesus on the journey, fellow traveller on the road,
who met two sad disciples, walking with them as you showed
the meaning of the scriptures that predicted you would rise,
but only when you blessed the meal could they believe their eyes.
Jesus on the journey, meet me where my hopes have fled,
help me recognise you in the breaking of the bread.

Jesus in the locked room, breaking through despair and doubt,
who comforted your friends when they had shut the whole world out,
who came again for Thomas, and revealed your hands and side
so that he could touch and know you as alive, though you had died.
Jesus in the locked room, breaking through our self-built bars,
help me recognise you in the touching of your scars.

Jesus on the shoreline, cooking breakfast for your friends,
who offered guilty Peter one more chance to make amends,
who filled a net with fish for him, and helped him to recall
the first catch that convinced him to respond to your first call.
Jesus on the shoreline, know my best, forgive my worst,
help me recognise you in the way I met you first.

If you need help with anything or just fancy a chat, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all, now and evermore. Amen.

Best wishes,

Revd Lynda Davies

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