

M ST MARY'S MENDLESHAM

www.stmarysmendlesham.org.uk

You are welcome to worship at any
of our services.

SUNDAYS

9.30 a.m. Parish Mass & Address

First Mass of Sunday:

Saturdays 3rd, 10th & 17th April at
7.30 pm: No Mass on 24th April

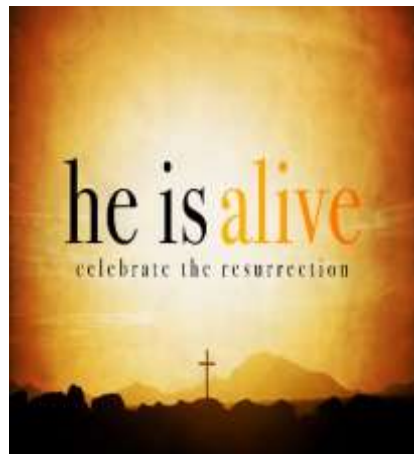
Daily Mass: *see calendar on back
page & check porch notice &
bulletin.*

Daily Morning & Evening Prayer
see porch notice.

Baptism (Christening), Marriage,
Anointing of the Sick & Holy
Communion from the Reserved
Sacrament - *contact Fr Philip*

Sacrament of Reconciliation

In Holy Week: 28th Mar: 6.00 pm; 29th
Mar: 6.00pm; 30th Mar: 3.00 pm &
7.45pm; 31st Mar: 8.00 pm
2nd Apr: 1.00 pm; 3rd Apr: 9.30 am;
Saturdays 10th & 17th April: 6.30 pm
- *or contact Fr Philip*



Vicar:

**Fr Philip T Gray, B.A.
S.S.C.
Mendlesham Vicarage
01449 766359**

Churchwardens:

**Andrew Fleming
01449 711065**

**Chris Elstone
07530 769676**

WHAT'S ON THIS MONTH

Daily Mass and Morning and Evening prayer continue to be offered publicly and the church remains open for private prayer.

Worship on Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Holy Saturday and Sunday will also be LIVESTREAMED

Visit <https://www.facebook.com/stmarysmendlesham/>

1st Apr	MAUNDY THURSDAY 7.30 pm: Mass of the Last Supper, Dedication of Lent offerings & procession to the Garden of Gethsemane (Lady Chapel). 8.30 pm – <u>10.00 pm</u> : Watch of silent prayer, finishing with Night Prayer.
2nd Apr	GOOD FRIDAY 2.00 pm Liturgy: readings, prayers, Holy Communion
3rd Apr	HOLY SATURDAY 7.30 pm: Blessing of Easter (Paschal) candle, new fire, Easter vigil, blessing of font, Easter garden & first Mass of Easter
4th Apr	EASTER DAY 9.30: Blessing of Easter candles in memory of departed loved ones, Parish Mass & address
11th Apr	2nd SUNDAY OF EASTER 9.30 Parish Mass; 10.20 (approx.) Vestry meeting to re/elect churchwardens. 10.30: Brief meeting of PCC to approve 2020 accounts.
19th Apr	9.30: Requiem Mass: April anniversaries
22nd Apr	9.30: Mass will be offered for Walsingham
23rd Apr	ST GEORGE 9.30 Mass will be offered for HM Queen Elizabeth & the country.

Funeral arrangements for Michael Denny

Thursday 8th April: 4.00 pm: Michael's body will be received into St Mary's church for a short vigil service. The church will remain open until 8.00 pm to allow people to pay their respects and light candles in a socially-distanced way, as only a limited number can attend the funeral service.

Friday 9th April: 11.00 am: Funeral Service in St Mary's church, followed by cremation at Risby.

LOOKING AHEAD

The Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) will be on 9th April at 10.20 approx. after the 9.30 Parish Mass.

Father Philip writes...

A boy said to his father, “Dad, is it really true that when you were

a boy, you went to church every Sunday?” His dad replied proudly: “Yes, I went every Sunday!” The boy thought a minute and said: “I’ll bet my going every Sunday won’t do me any good either!”



What a contrast much formal religion of just going to church has been to what should happen to us at Easter. We are told in the Gospels that Jesus appeared to his disciples and the power of Easter began to work miracles in their lives. They ceased to be despairing men and became daring missionaries and preached the Good News. Jesus’ resurrection invited them to open their hearts to new life. That

same power of Easter continues to work miracles in people’s lives wherever it is preached and whenever people open their hearts to it. The Good News of Easter is that Jesus wants to work miracles in you and me. The boy questioning his father had not seen any change in his father’s life. There was no evidence



of new life in Jesus Christ. A question for us all is: **What keeps me from displaying the Risen Life of Christ more vividly in my life?**

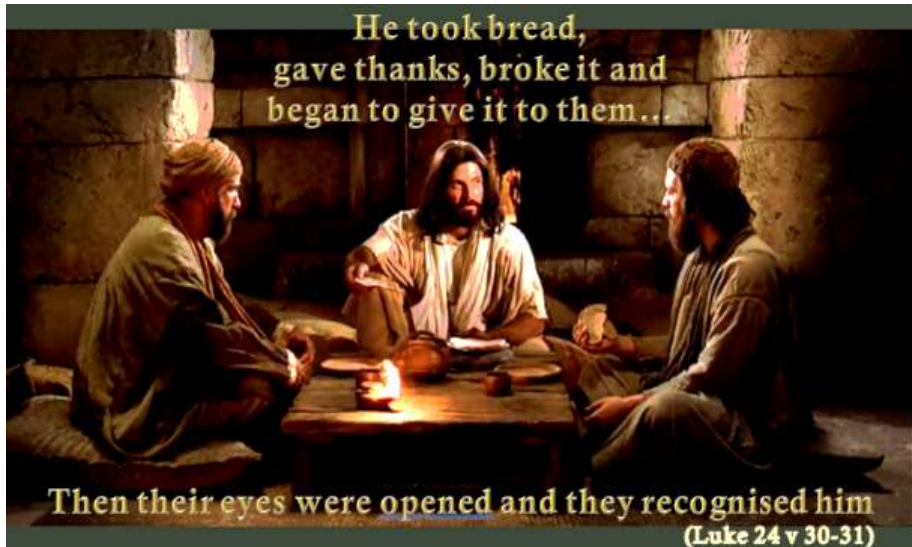
Maybe our reticence to live the Easter Life is that we give in to doubt. When the disciples came to the tomb, expecting to find Jesus dead, they did not find him at all and shortly it dawned on them that He had risen/ The empty tomb also offered another lesson. They would have to go on in His absence but empowered with His Spirit.



We are called to witness to the Risen Lord by passing on our faith rather like a baton is passed from one runner to another in a relay race. The

baton of God's kingdom is passed by Jesus to His disciples. They are to complete the work He began while living among us. John Henry Newman said: "God has created me to do some definite service. He has committed some work to me which he has not committed to another."

The early Christians knew Jesus in the Breaking of Bread – the Mass –



and unlike the boy talking to his father, the world saw they were changed by their worship. If we respond to Jesus, Easter will be evident in us, rather like the way described by the following little poem:

"I am my neighbour's Bible: he reads me when we meet.
Today he reads me in my house, tomorrow in the street.
He may a relative or friend, or slight acquaintance be;
He may not even know my name, yet he is reading me."

May we be more aware of our part in Christ's mission and realise others judge him by what they see in you and me.

Come Holy Spirit and fill us with your Love!