

Offertory Prayers Sanctus: Mystery of Faith **Christ has died, Christ is Risen, Christ will come again!** Agnus Dei

Post communion prayer & Regina Caeli at Our Lady's shrine

Notices and Vestry Meeting

This Week: Divine office - Psalter Week 2

Mon: 9.30am Mass (Acts 4v 23-31; John 3 v1-8)
Int: All preparing for baptism

Tues: 9.30am Mass (Acts 4 v23-31; John 3 v 1-8)
Int: Church in Kagera
7.30pm Deanery Mission & Pastoral Committee

Wed: 9.30am Mass Int: All in prison
(Acts 5 v 17-26; John 3 v 16-21)

Thurs: 9.30am Mass (Acts 5 v 27-33; John 3 v 31-36) Int: Persecuted people

Fri: 9.30am Mass (Acts 5 v 34-42; John 6 v 1-15)
Int: Christian Aid

Sat 6.30pm Sacrament of Reconciliation
7.30pm 1st Mass of Sunday Reading as Snday
(Acts 3 v 13-15, 17-19; 1 John 2 v 1-5; Luke 24 v 35-48)

Next Sunday - THIRD OF EASTERTIDE

9.30am Mass & Address
(Acts 3 v 13-15, 17-19; 1 John 2 v 1-5; Luke 24 v 35-48)

NOTICES:

1 Our APCM will be on Sunday 9th May at the end of Parish Mass. We need nominations for PCC and Sidesmen. The ministry of welcome is imperative if we are to witness to the Resurrection.

2. **Prayer for the week:** Lord, release into our heart the same explosion of joy that Easter released into your disciples after they had been plunged into sadness by Good Friday.

Please keep silence from 9.25 to prepare for Mass 11th April 2021
PARISH CHURCH OF ST. MARY THE VIRGIN, MENDLESHAM
2nd Sunday of Easter Year B

THEME :The victory has been won! What we have to do is make it our own - now! By believing that Jesus is the Son of God, and like Thomas saying - "My Lord and my God!" - God makes us his children and the victory over the world can be ours.

PENITENTIAL RITE

Celebrant : Forgive us, Lord, when we give way to doubt.
Lord have mercy.

People : **LORD HAVE MERCY**

Celebrant : Forgive us, Lord, in our excuses and denials.
Christ have mercy.

People : **CHRIST HAVE MERCY**

Celebrant : Forgive us, Lord, for our hesitating faith.
Lord have mercy.

People : **LORD HAVE MERCY**

Celebrant proclaims God's forgiveness

Gloria

OPENING PRAYER : *Let us pray for a deeper awareness of our Christian baptism.*
God of mercy, you wash away our sins in water, you give us new birth in the spirit and redeem us in the blood of Christ. As we celebrate Christ's resurrection, increase our awareness of these blessings, and renew our gift of life within us. Amen

LITURGY OF THE WORD OF GOD First Reading - Acts 4 v. 32-35.

Luke puts before us an idealized picture of the infant church. The whole group is united, the apostles respected, and everything is owned in common.

The whole group of believers was united, heart and soul; no one claimed for his own use anything that he had, as everything they owned was held in common.

The apostles continued to testify to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus with great power, and they were all given great respect.

None of their members was ever in want, as all those who owned land or houses would sell them, and bring the money from them, to present it to the apostles; it was then distributed to any members who might be in need

Responsorial Psalm - Psalm 117

® "Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, for his love has no end."

Let the sons of Israel say: "His love has no end."

Let the sons of Aaron say: "His love has no end."

Let those who fear the Lord say: "His love has no end." ®

The Lord's right hand has triumphed; his right hand raised me up.
I shall not die, I shall live and recount his deeds.
I was punished, I was punished by the Lord, but not doomed to die. ®

The stone which the builders rejected has become the corner stone.
This is the work of the Lord, a marvel in our eyes.
This day was made by the Lord: we rejoice and are glad. ®

Second Reading - 1 John 5 v. 1 - 6. Faith is first a matter of believing that Jesus is the Son of God. Since the Spirit of God is the source of truth, the spirit is the witness to God's saving work in Christ.

Whoever believes that Jesus is the Christ has been begotten by God; and whoever loves the Father that begot him loves the child whom he begets. We can be sure that we love God's children if we love God himself and do what he has commanded us; this is what loving God is – keeping his commandments; and his commandments are not difficult, because anyone who has been begotten by God has already overcome the world; this is the victory over the world – our faith. Who can overcome the world? Only the man who believes that Jesus is the Son of God: Jesus Christ who came by water and blood, not with water only, but with water and blood; with the Spirit as another witness – since the Spirit is the truth.

Acclamation Alleluia, alleluia! Jesus said “**You believe because you can see me. Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe.**” Alleluia!

Gospel - John 20 v. 19 - 31 John tells how the risen Christ invests the disciples with the Spirit and later challenges the apostle Thomas to believe. Thomas comes to profess his faith in Jesus as Lord and God.

In the evening of that same day, the first day of the week, the doors were closed in the room where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them. He said to them, 'Peace be with you', and showed them his hands and his side. The disciples were filled with joy when they saw the Lord, and he said to them again, 'Peace be with you. 'As the Father sent me, so am I sending you.' After saying this he breathed on them and said: 'Receive the Holy Spirit. For those whose sins you forgive, they are forgiven; for those whose sins you retain, they are retained.' Thomas, called the Twin, who was one of the Twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. When the disciples said, 'We have seen the Lord', he answered, 'Unless I see the holes that the nails made in his hands and can put my finger into the holes they made, and unless I can put my hand into his side, I refuse to believe.' Eight days later the disciples were in the house again and Thomas was with them. The doors were closed, but Jesus came in and stood among them. 'Peace be with you' he said. Then he spoke to Thomas, 'Put your finger here; look, here are my hands. Give me your hand; put it into my side. Doubt no longer but believe.' Thomas replied, 'My Lord and my God!' Jesus said to him: 'You believe because you can see me. Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe.' There were many other signs that Jesus worked and the disciples saw, but they are not recorded in this

Lets

book. These are recorded so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing this you may have life through his name

Creed Apostle's Creed

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

Celebrant : The readings remind us of the quality of life that ought to be ours because of the Lord's saving redemption. May we witness to the love that Jesus gives to bind us together.

Reader: Let us pray for the church, that through preaching and living the Gospel of Jesus with power and praise, non- Christians may be converted to Christ.

Let us pray that we may learn to share our possessions with those in need.

Let us pray for all whose pain and anguish cause them to doubt the goodness of the Lord: that by faith they may see the wounded hands of the risen Lord which reach out to them in love.

Let us pray for the homes and families represented here with all their particular joys and sorrows, needs and resources: that our lives may be practical witnesses to our faith.

Let us pray for all who suffer from diseases which are as yet incurable, for any who are too weak or exhausted to pray, for any who are desperate or suicidal.

Let us pray for the sick - especially Billy Carter; Doug Hales and Alun Jones and our parishioners in homes Hazel Lockwood; Cindie Lind; Margaret Maundrell and Trevor Thorpe.

You descended into Hades and opened wide its gates; receive the faithful departed into your Father's house. we pray for HRH Prince Philip recently departed and Michael Denny whose funeral was last week (pause while candles are lit) and Lilian Brett; Keith Hammond; Marjorie Stannard; Una Robinson; Andrew Drayson; Hazel Rowe; Herbert Footer; Arthur Braybrooke; Christine Mawson; Winnifred Webb and Peggy Walker whose anniversaries of death fall this week.

Let us ask for the help of our Lady as we pray. **Hail Mary etc.**

SILENCE

All loving and merciful God, we offer our prayers to you that we may recognise your presence in your Son Jesus Christ in the world. We offer our prayer in Jesus name. Amen