

St Mary the Virgin, Great Brickhill



The Church continues to be alive and active, but our buildings must close.

WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES THIS SUNDAY 3rd MAY:-

LECTIONARY READINGS FOR THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER:

Acts 2: 42-47; 1 Peter 2: 19-25; John 10: 1-10; Psalm 23

REFLECTIONS FROM THE RECTOR:

The Rector has written a brief reflection and prayer for this Fourth Sunday after Easter – the document is attached.

SUNDAY SERVICE - Revd Val Plumb, Rural Dean for Mursley Deanery

The Rural Dean will be recording a 15/20-minute service on Sunday, "The Good Shepherd and a sheep named Dennis". The you tube link is:-

<https://youtu.be/0YUAdww7YSI>

RADIO 4:

Sunday Worship at 8.10am. "Unless the Lord builds the house..."

The Bishop of Salisbury Nicholas Holtam marks the 800th anniversary of Salisbury Cathedral and its move from Old Sarum. The original Salisbury Cathedral was completed at Old Sarum in 1092 under Osmund, the first Bishop of Salisbury. In 1220 the foundations were laid for this Cathedral on the 'New Sarum' site and within 38 years the main body of the building was completed. Bishop Nicholas and the Cathedral's Canon Precentor, the Revd Anna Macham, reflect on what this very special building means for the people of God in the city and diocese, and the vision, faith and human ingenuity that not only saw this building raised, but eight centuries on ensure it remains open, if only virtually.

BBC TELEVISION:

Sunday Worship BBC 1 at 10.45am (subject to change) Fourth Sunday of Easter

The Very Reverend Kathy Jones leads the service for the fourth Sunday of Easter from Bangor Cathedral in Wales, with hymns recorded for Songs of Praise in March 2018. The service was filmed before the closure of all church buildings was announced.

The Order of Service can be downloaded from the BBC website: -

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/m000hyq6>

Songs of Praise BBC 1 at 1.15pm Faith and Farming

The Rev Kate Bottley looks back on some of Song of Praise's most moving and uplifting stories from across the farming community. Kate has cream team with a bishop at one of the largest agricultural events in the UK, the Great Yorkshire Show. JB Gill finds out about a church set up in the middle of a farm, and Aled Jones has a

go at duck herding. With hymns and worship songs to raise spirits and comfort the soul, including a special performance of a traditional blessing by soprano Margaret Keys. All recorded before the current closure of church buildings.

OXFORD DIOCESE LIVE STREAMING:

Bishop Colin will be presiding at the next online Diocesan service at 10am on Sunday 3rd May, with a reflection from The Venerable Judy French. To watch the service, live or at a later time, follow the link:-

<https://www.oxford.anglican.org/coronavirus-covid-19/livestream/>

For a PDF of the Order of Service, Click Here:- <https://www.oxford.anglican.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/DOX-044-4th-Easter-Sunday-OoS-v3.pdf>

For those without the internet the Church at Home services from the Diocese of Oxford can now be accessed by telephone. **Dial 01865 920930** to hear the latest service (press 0= short service, 1= full service). Normal call rates apply. Please pass this message on to those who might welcome this way to be involved in worship at this time.

UK Prays:- Bishop Olivia will be among the contributors **this Sunday** for an inclusive unifying moment of prayer for humanity. This online event takes place **at 1.00 -1.30pm:** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AdozSCNgK4M&feature=youtu.be>

CHURCH OF ENGLAND ONLINE:

Weekly services are streamed each Sunday at 9.00am. Go to the following page, which also lists a range of resources to help walking with Jesus Christ, who is the light of the world: <https://www.churchofengland.org/more/media-centre/church-online>

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES:

REFLECTIONS FOR A CHURCH IN LOCKDOWN:

The second episode in a new series of reflective **podcasts by Bishop Steven** explores Psalm 2. The series aims to resource the Church during the crisis. Listen online:- <https://blogs.oxford.anglican.org/podcast/you-are-my-son/>

VE DAY RESOURCES:

Resources to commemorate the 75th Anniversary of Victory in Europe Day (VE Day) on 8th May can be found on the following link:- <https://www.churchofengland.org/prayer-and-worship/worship-texts-and-resources/worship-resources-ve-day-2020>

A PRAYER FOR VE DAY (from the Act of Commitment for Peace)

Lord God our Father,

**we pledge ourselves to serve you and all humankind, in the cause of peace,
for the relief of want and suffering,
and for the praise of your name.**

Guide us by your Spirit;

give us wisdom;

give us courage;

give us hope;

and keep us faithful now and always.

Amen.