

Thursday 28 April 2022

Dear Friends,

Alleluia, Christ is risen! Happy Easter!

Easter eggs may have all been eaten, hot cross buns finished, but we continue to celebrate this great feast of hope and life and love.

I'm sure you know the Easter season is 50 days long, 40 days till Ascension Day on 26 May, then a further 10 till Pentecost. The first 8 days are the most special, which the Book of Common Prayer makes very clear with special set readings for each day and not just for the Sunday.

This year that has caused some confusion with regards to the date of the celebration of St George, patron saint of England, normally on 23 April, which of course would have been within the first week of Easter. In the rubrics of the Church of England about the liturgical calendar the religious observance of St George's Day changes when it is too close to Easter. According to the Church of England's calendar, when St George's Day falls between Palm Sunday and the Second Sunday of Easter inclusive, it is moved to the Monday after the Second Sunday of Easter. But even that was not to happen this year, as that Monday was already taken by a more important saint. It definitively caused some challenges for flag masters!

The saints in the week after Easter week, some of whom were playing catch up, are as follows:

Monday was for Mark the Evangelist,

Tuesday for St George,

Wednesday for Christina Rossetti,

Thursday for Peter Chanel, a martyred missionary in Vanuatu,

Friday will be Catherine of Siena,

and Saturday is the commemoration of Pandita Mary Ramabia, who translated the bible into Marathi.

All these saints, martyrs and inspirational people lived out the hope and joy of Easter, each in their own unique way. We are simply asked to do the same, to find our own unique way of living as Easter people. Some will do that through art, others through generous giving and caring, some in prayer, others through serving on Church Committees or the PCC. What will be your way?

Easter is that great reminder that God has given us new opportunities, given us new life out of love for us. Do you remember that song which some of you may have sung at school: "Love is something if you give it away..... it ends up being more"? Our response to Easter is just that, accepting God's love and then freely sharing it, without any hesitation. This is the time of loves.

An Easter Carol

Spring bursts to-day,
For Christ is risen and all the earth's at play.
Flash forth, thou Sun,
The rain is over and gone, its work is done.
Winter is past,
Sweet Spring is come at last, is come at last.
Bud, Fig and Vine,
Bud, Olive, fat with fruit and oil and wine.
Break forth this morn
In roses, thou but yesterday a Thorn.
Uplift thy head,
O pure white Lily through the Winter dead.
Beside your dams
Leap and rejoice, you merry-making Lambs.

All Herds and Flocks
Rejoice, all Beasts of thickets and of rocks.
Sing, Creatures, sing,
Angels and Men and Birds and everything.
All notes of Doves
Fill all our world: this is the time of loves.
by Christina Rossetti

With prayers and Easter blessings,

Anne, Charlie, Neil and Wilma

This week the letter has been written by Revd Canon Wilma Roest

Please pray for:

...Fr. Jamil Khadir and the Anglican congregations in Nablus in the West Bank and the Anglican Church in Beirut; also for the peace of Jerusalem

...Christ Church, the Anglican Church in Kyiv, and the people of Ukraine

...Christ's School, and for all schools in our parish

...Glass Door staff and clients

...those who are preparing for confirmation on 29 May

...the sick and those in need – Charles Stiller, Cedric Lee, Suzie Cox, Liz Velluet, Algernon Alexander, Marc Cranfield-Adams, Beverley Walsh

...the departed, may they rest in peace – Paul Wiszniewski, David Kirby, Geoff Rollason

The Prayer List is renewed at the beginning of each month. If you would like to add someone's name, please ensure you have their agreement, if at all possible.

Church Services:

We recommend you wear a mask in church as it's an enclosed space and we are continuing to care for each other.

Holy Communion is now being offered again in two kinds, i.e. the bread and the wine, to those who wish to receive both. However, those who would prefer to continue to receive the bread only, will still make a full communion.

We have received clear advice that 'intincting' (i.e. dipping wafer into wine) should be discouraged as there is a higher risk of contamination this way than from receiving directly from the chalice.

If you have any questions about receiving communion, please do talk to your clergy.

St John the Divine's Sunday service at 11.00am is both in-person and live-streamed via their [Facebook page](#).

St John's midweek service takes place on Tuesday evenings with half an hour of quiet contemplation focused on the Blessed Sacrament at 6.30pm, followed by the Said Eucharist at 7.00pm.

St Mary Magdalene's Sunday services are at 8.00am, 9.30am, 11.30am (third Sunday only) and 6.30pm. The 9.30am service will also be live-streamed via their [Facebook page](#). Apologies if the live-streams on 8 and 15 May are not available, due to the vicar's holiday.

During the week there is a Said Eucharist at 10.00am on Wednesdays.

St Matthias' 9.30am Sunday service is an in-person service. The midweek Eucharist at St Matthias is held on Thursdays at 10.00am.

Orders of service and readings can be found on the News page of our website – here:

<https://richmondteamministry.org/news/>

Private Prayer:

St Mary Magdalene is open for private prayer on Saturdays between 10.00am and 12.00noon, when you can light a candle and reflect or meditate. The church is also open Monday – Friday, from 8.00am until 3.00pm.

St John the Divine is normally open on Tuesdays between 9.30am and 12.30pm, Saturday mornings between 10.00am-12.00noon, and at various other times when Fr Neil is working in the office.

Morning Prayer, Monday – Fridays, at 8.30am:

Morning Prayer takes place in church and on Zoom. We meet at St Mary Magdalene on Mondays, at St John the Divine on Tuesdays, at St Mary Magdalene on Wednesdays and Thursdays, and at St Matthias on Fridays.

On Zoom, Monday - Thursday: (There will be no Morning Prayer on Monday 2 May)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88554825313?pwd=cVVLdFkrUy95MFU4OTVld3hNNi9tUT09>

Meeting ID: 885 5482 5313

Passcode: 410548

and on Fridays:

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81983343470?pwd=ejVpVnB4d3VGdkFtWjl2c2tTOC9XUT09>

Meeting ID: 819 8334 3470

Passcode: FriPrayer

We apologise if Morning Prayer on Zoom is not perfect in the coming weeks due to annual leave of clergy.

Evening Prayer is normally said in-person at St John the Divine on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at 4.30pm. **There will be no Evening Prayer from Friday 29 April to Wednesday 4 May inclusive.**

Children's Services at St Mary Magdalene

We'll be hearing some of the stories which Jesus told and thinking about what they teach us about God and ourselves and the world! There'll be stories, songs, prayers and activities, and families from all churches are welcome to come along!

7 May - 4pm – The Good Stranger

4 June – 4pm – The House on the Rock

2 July – 4pm – The Lost Sheep

Ascension Day 26 May 8pm at St John the Divine

There will be a Team Eucharist on Ascension Day to which everyone is invited.

Confirmation Sunday 29 May 2022, 6.30pm

Bishop Richard, Bishop of Kingston, will come to the Richmond Team for a Confirmation Service on Sunday 29 May at 6.30pm at St Mary Magdalene.

Confirmation preparation has now started and will continue on the following dates:

Tuesday 10 May, 7.30pm, in the parish office, Vicarage basement

Saturday 21 May, 10.30-12.00noon, at St Matthias

Will you pray for those who are preparing for confirmation and support them on Sunday 29 May by your presence?

Church, Community and other news:

We are now in the process of revising our Church Electoral Roll (up to and including this Sunday, 1 May). It is necessary to be on the Roll if you wish to attend the annual general meeting and vote for church officers and representatives. If you are already on the Roll and have had no changes to your contact details, you need do nothing. If you wish to be added to the Roll, had any changes to your contact data or wish to be taken off the Roll then please complete one of the white forms at the back of church and post it in the Electoral Roll 'letterbox' at the back of church or post it/drop it into the Parish Office (address below). If you have any questions please talk to your Church Wardens or the Electoral Roll Officer (Margot Gallie - 020 8948 2775 / margot.gallie@gmail.com).

APCM and ACM

On **Sunday 22 May** each church will hold an Annual Church Meeting, after their main service, to elect church wardens, members for Church Committee and PCC members. It is a chance to affirm the work of each church and to begin to look ahead to the future.

In the evening, following the 6.30pm Evensong at St John the Divine, there will be the Annual Parochial Church Meeting, when elections are affirmed and matters of the Team, such as financial reports, are shared.

If you would like to be more involved in the life of one of the churches or the Team, please do consider standing for Church Committee or for PCC or for Deanery Synod. For more information, speak to the clergy or to the current Church Wardens. Nomination forms will soon be up in each church.

Geraniums for Patience School

Sue O'Toole is going to buy geraniums next week, the week beginning 2 May. If you would like to place an order please email Sue at sueotoole@tiscali.co.uk or phone her on 07507 634 218. She will need your name and the number and colour of geraniums you want. Due to the increased costs, the plants will be £3.50 each. The proceeds will go to fund teachers' salaries at Patience School in Uganda. She is happy to deliver your order. Thank you for your support.

Recital @ St Mary Magdalene Saturday 7 May at 12.30pm

We look forward to welcoming the organist Eleni Keventsidou, who will perform a programme with music by Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy, Philipp Wolfrum, Maurice Duruflé, Bernard Heyes, Manolis Kalomiris and Yannis Constantinidis.

Peter's Party – a date for the diary

Peter Bowyer, our parish architect for more than 30 years, is retiring and we want to thank him for all he has done for the Richmond Team. Everyone is invited to a celebration on Saturday 25 June from 6.00pm onwards at St Mary Magdalene. More info to follow.

What can we do for Ukraine?

Pray!

At home and at church.

Give!

<https://donate.redcross.org.uk/appeal/ukraine-crisis-appeal>

Offer a home or a room!

Via the Sanctuary Foundation (<https://www.sanctuaryfoundation.org.uk>) or the government scheme.

Buy a ticket to the 'Cook for Ukraine' dinner and raffle at St John the Divine

Find out more at: <https://richmondteamministry.org/uncategorized/cook-for-ukraine-dinner-at-st-john-the-divine/>

Christian Aid Week 15 – 21 May

With fewer door-to-door collections for Christian Aid, you may feel that you are missing out. But not fear, there are other ways of giving to this important charity:

<https://giving.give-star.com/online/christian-aid/richmond-upon-thames-christian-aid-group-40cf3>

Parish Giving Scheme / Give A Little

We are hugely grateful to so many who continue to make regular contributions to the finances of the Team.

Our planning, budgeting, and spending within RTM would be immensely helped by a new scheme that is being launched called the Parish Giving Scheme (PGS). This is a free Direct Debit scheme, enabling you to give safely and securely. We receive 100% of your donation plus Gift Aid is automatically claimed for us, which means reduced administration, less work for our Treasurer and Gift Aid Secretary and improved cash flow.

The PGS would replace other means of regular giving (standing orders, Give A Little, envelopes etc.). To find out more about PGS, please read the [donor leaflet](#) or speak to Jackie Harrison, our Stewardship Coordinator on 07747 111525 or email jackieharrison456@gmail.com. You can also watch [this video](#) to see how PGS works. You can sign up [online](#), by telephone or [by post](#). When you sign up, please do opt into Gift Aid if you are a UK taxpayer.

As in the past, contributions can also be made electronically in church and there will also be a plate for cash collections at the back of each church.

However if anyone would like to make an additional on-line donation to the work of our churches this can be done at <https://givealittle.co/campaigns/5260a080-4ee0-49b6-a1c3-d552ef9a0700>

Whilst this is a challenging time for many, financially as well as emotionally, I hope we can continue to count on your support for the work of our three churches.

Please feel free to contact Jackie Harrison, our Stewardship Coordinator, on 07747 111525 or jackieharrison456@gmail.com if you have any questions.

With best wishes,
Tina

Tina Roberts
Parish Administrator
Working remotely on Mondays and Tuesdays, 9.00am – 5.00pm
Mobile: 07521 299109
Working in the Office on Wednesdays and Thursdays, 9.00am – 5.00pm
Parish Office, The Vicarage, Ormond Road, Richmond TW10 6TH
020 8940 0362

Richmond Team Ministry
St Mary Magdalene • St Matthias • St John the Divine
www.richmondteamministry.org

Registered Charity No 1130018

Our Privacy Notice can be viewed at: <https://richmondteamministry.org/gdpr/>



[Click here for St John the Divine's Facebook page](#)



[Click here for St Mary Magdalene's Facebook page](#)



[Click here for the Team Rector's Twitter feed](#)