



22 March 2026

## Passion Sunday

# Welcome to our services today

- 9am Parish Eucharist at St John's  
10.30am Parish Eucharist at St Mary's  
4pm Lego Church in the Bede House  
7.30pm *The Kings Men concert at St Mary's*

**Music: Organist St. John's:** Sam Stringer, **Hymns: 135, 142, 669.**

**Organist St. Mary's:** Rosemary Nayyar, **Hymns: 415, 498(omit v4), 304, 383.**

**Anthem:** *Ave Verum*

**The Benefice Online Service: 'Meeting Point'** is for you if you missed our services in church, or for further reflection during the week.

<https://www.stmaryhighamferrers.org/sunserv1>

- Tues 24 1pm Knit & Natter at St Johns to 3pm  
7.30pm *St John's PCC at the Vicarage*  
7.30pm Bell Ringing practice at St Mary's
- Wed 25 10am Morning prayer in the Lady Chapel, St Mary's  
2pm *Lent Course in the Bede House*
- Thur 26 10am Said Eucharist with Coffee and chat to 12noon at St Mary's  
7.30pm *Lent Course at the Vicarage*
- Fri 27 7pm Choir Practice at 7pm
- Sat 28 Farmers Market morning with Bell Peal, Recital, Tea & Cakes in the Bede House

## Sunday 29 March 2026 Palm Sunday

- 9am Parish Eucharist at St John's  
10.30am Parish Eucharist at St Mary's (procession from the Town Hall)

### Collect

Gracious Father, you gave up your Son out of love for the world: lead us to ponder the mysteries of his passion, that we may know eternal peace through the shedding of our Saviour's blood, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen**

## **Romans 8:6-11**

To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law—indeed it cannot, and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

## **John 11:1-45**

Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. Mary was the one who anointed the Lord with perfume and wiped his feet with her hair; her brother Lazarus was ill. So the sisters sent a message to Jesus, 'Lord, he whom you love is ill.' But when Jesus heard it, he said, 'This illness does not lead to death; rather it is for God's glory, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it.' Accordingly, though Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, after having heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was.

Then after this he said to the disciples, 'Let us go to Judea again.' The disciples said to him, 'Rabbi, the Jews were just now trying to stone you, and are you going there again?' Jesus answered, 'Are there not twelve hours of daylight? Those who walk during the day do not stumble, because they see the light of this world. But those who walk at night stumble, because the light is not in them.' After saying this, he told them, 'Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I am going there to awaken him.' The disciples said to him, 'Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will be all right.' Jesus, however, had been speaking about his death, but they thought that he was referring merely to sleep. Then Jesus told them plainly, 'Lazarus is dead. For your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him.' Thomas, who was called the Twin, said to his fellow-disciples, 'Let us also go, that we may die with him.'

When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb for four days. Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away, and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them about their brother. When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home. Martha said to Jesus, 'Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of

him.' Jesus said to her, 'Your brother will rise again.' Martha said to him, 'I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day.' Jesus said to her, 'I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?' She said to him, 'Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world.'

When she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary, and told her privately, 'The Teacher is here and is calling for you.' And when she heard it, she got up quickly and went to him. Now Jesus had not yet come to the village, but was still at the place where Martha had met him. The Jews who were with her in the house, consoling her, saw Mary get up quickly and go out. They followed her because they thought that she was going to the tomb to weep there. When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, 'Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.' When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. He said, 'Where have you laid him?' They said to him, 'Lord, come and see.' Jesus began to weep. So the Jews said, 'See how he loved him!' But some of them said, 'Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?'

Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. Jesus said, 'Take away the stone.' Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, 'Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead for four days.' Jesus said to her, 'Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?' So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upwards and said, 'Father, I thank you for having heard me. I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me.' When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, 'Lazarus, come out!' The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth, and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, 'Unbind him, and let him go.'

Many of the Jews therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what Jesus did, believed in him.

### **Post Communion**

Lord Jesus Christ, you have taught us that what we do for the least of our brothers and sisters we do also for you: give us the will to be the servant of others as you were the servant of all, and gave up your life and died for us, but are alive and reign, now and for ever.

**Amen.**

**Children are welcome at all our Services in both churches**, we have children's areas with colouring and toys and are looking at ways to better include them in all we do. We understand that some of our services can seem long to little ones, and it is absolutely fine if they need to wriggle or play or move around.

### **For your Prayers.**

**Our prayers have been asked for:** Linda Bond, Robert Britchford, Jane Carpenter, Mary Coleman, Marian Cox, Pat Ellis, Peter Etheridge, Christine Franklin, Gill Headland, Sandra Hill, Kathy Jackson, Sarah Knight, Marion Knott, Sarah Martin, Sally Mayes, Val Robinson, Elizabeth Swindley, Stewart Wiles, Clare Yorke. **St John's:** Jo Barrie, Pauline Brown, Hilary Goodman, Lesley Littlejohn, Brenda May, Lynn Redgate, Alison Smith, David Webber.

**In memoriam:** Andrew Watson, Stuart Summerling.

**Year's mind anniversaries:** William Jackson, Margaret Martin, Mark Lovell, Nellie Grant, Kathleen sharp, Frederick Knight, Brian Bithrey, Charles Kilsby, Kate Mantle, Eric Groome, Drusilla Lawrence, Phyllis Tompkins, Gilbert Robinson, Helen Ball, Harry Ball, Waren Warnes (Priest), Dorothy Kennell, Harry Ball, Tony Norman, George Deighton, Doris Barnes, Arthur Hartwell, Frederick Webb, Isabella Greenfield, Pam Osborne, Edith Rial, Walter Wood, Eric Palmer, Sidney O'Dell, George Blackwell, Frederick Eaton, Thomas Hall, Horace Clarke, Leslie Brawn, Mildred Horsfield, Doris Jephcote, Elizabeth Layram.

## **NOTICES**

### **For all enquiries and requests for pastoral help:**

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### Churchwardens:

St. John's; Arthur Wright and Andrew Wager 07789 286398

St. Mary's; Sandy Coleman 07519 396654

***Mthr Louise is off duty Mon 23 March***