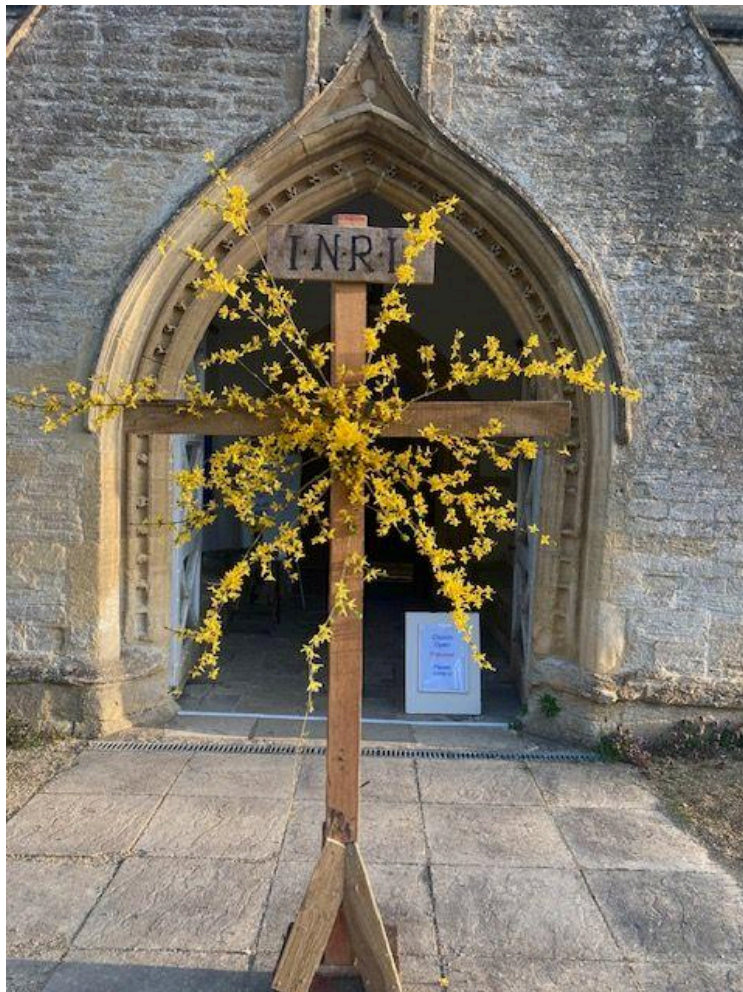




Easter Celebration



St Mary's Kidlington
20th April 2025 10am

www.kidhp.org.uk

Easter Day and Every Day

Today is the most important day of the year!

*Today is the celebration of the victory
of life over death,
goodness over evil
hope over despair.*

*Christian joy is not shallow happiness or feeling good;
it is the assurance of this victory
and deep trust in God that this Easter life
permeates the whole of our lives—
whether we feel good or not.*

*Easter is not just today, but every day.
resurrection is for all of us
and is all around us
today and every day.*

Let us celebrate with joyful hearts and minds!

A Special Note for Visitors:

A special welcome to you today if you are visiting us.

Around Christ's table, everyone is welcome.

If it is your custom to receive communion in any Christian church you are welcome to receive it this morning,

but if you would prefer to receive a blessing please do feel free to come forward and keep your head bowed.

During Covid many people got used to receiving the bread and the wine together, by priest's intinction - the priest dips the bread in the wine for you. Afterwards some people resumed the traditional custom of receiving the bread first and then sharing the wine from the common cup.

We now offer everyone the choice. If you would like the priest to intinct (dip for you) please give a nod. If you prefer to receive the wine from the common cup please shake your head and the priest will NOT intinct your bread. The common cup is always silver and will be on your right.

All indications about sitting / standing are invitations and not instructions. Please sit or stand as is most comfortable for you.

Choir Introit: *This Joyful Eastertide—Wood*

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

He is risen indeed, Alleluia!

*Children's activities will run at the back of church;
children are invited to make free use of the resources.
We do not worry about noise or the sounds of joyful activities!*

Hymn 77

Jesus Christ is risen today, Alleluia!
our triumphant holy day, Alleluia!
who did once upon the cross, Alleluia!
suffer to redeem our loss. Alleluia!

Hymns of praise then let us sing, Alleluia!
unto Christ, our heavenly King, Alleluia!
who endured the cross and grave, Alleluia!
sinners to redeem and save. Alleluia!

But the pains that he endured, Alleluia!
our salvation have procured, Alleluia!
now above the sky he's King, Alleluia!
where the angels ever sing. Alleluia!

Welcome and Gathering Prayer:

Loving God,
we have come to worship you.
**Help us to pray to you in faith,
to sing your praise with gratitude,
and to listen to your word
with eagerness;
through Christ our Lord
Amen.**



Penitence and Absolution:

Today and every day

Christ is raised
Life is transformed
We are raised

Today and every day

Today and every day
We make mistakes
We hurt each other
We fail to be the people God calls us to be
Today and every Day

Today and every day

The God of love and power
Forgives you and frees you from your sins,
Heals and strengthens you by his Spirit,
And raises you to new life in Christ our Lord
Today and every day
Amen. Alleluia!

The Peruvian Gloria:

we repeat each line after the choristers:

Glory to God, Glory to God, Glory to the Father.
To Him be glory for ever
Alleluia Amen.
Alleluia Amen

Glory to God, Glory to God, Glory to the Son.
To Him be glory for ever
Alleluia Amen.
Alleluia Amen

Glory to God, Glory to God, Glory to the Spirit.
To Him be glory for ever
Alleluia Amen.
Alleluia Amen

The Liturgy of the Word

The Collect:

**Lord of all life and power
who through the mighty resurrection of your Son
overcame the old order of sin and death
to make all things new in him;
grant that we, being dead to sin
and alive to you in Christ Jesus,
may reign with him in glory;
to whom with you and the holy spirit
be all praise and honour, glory and might,
now and for ever. Amen.**

Please sit

New Testament Reading: *Acts 10:34-43*

Then Peter began to speak: "I now realize how true it is that God does not show favouritism but accepts from every nation the one who fears him and does what is right. You know what has happened throughout the province of Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John preached— how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and power, and how he went around doing good and healing all who were under the power of the devil, because God was with him.

"We are witnesses of everything he did in the country of the Jews and in Jerusalem. They killed him by hanging him on a cross, but God raised him from the dead on the third day and caused him to be seen. He was not seen by all the people, but by witnesses whom God had already chosen—by us who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one whom God appointed as judge of the living and the dead. All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

This is the Word of the Lord **Thanks be to God**

Please stand

Hymn AMNS 80

Alleluia, Alleluia!
Hearts to heaven and voices raise;
Sing to God a hymn of gladness,
sing to God a hymn of praise:
He who on the Cross a victim
for the world's salvation bled,
Jesus Christ, the King of Glory,
now is risen from the dead.

Christ is risen, Christ the first-fruits
of the holy harvest field,
which will all its full abundance
at his second coming yield;
Then the golden ears of harvest
will their heads before him wave,
ripened by his glorious sunshine,
from the furrows of the grave.

Christ is risen, we are risen;
Shed upon us heavenly grace,
Rain, and dew, and gleams of glory
From the brightness of thy face;
That we, with our hearts in heaven,
Here on earth may fruitful be,
And by angel-hands be gathered,
And be ever, Lord, with thee.

Alleluia, Alleluia!
Glory be to God on high;
Alleluia! to the Saviour,
who has gained the victory;
Alleluia! to the Spirit,
fount of love and sanctity;
Alleluia, Alleluia!
to the Triune Majesty.

(Christopher Wordsworth 1807-85)

The Gospel: *Luke 24. 1-12*

The Lord be with you.

And also with you

Hear the Holy Gospel according to Luke.

Glory be to you O Lord

On the first day of the week, very early in the morning, the women took the spices they had prepared and went to the tomb. They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, but when they entered, they did not find the body of the Lord.

While they were wondering about this, suddenly two men in clothes that gleamed like lightning stood beside them.

In their fright the women bowed down with their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, "Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here; he has risen! Remember how he told you, while he was still with you in Galilee: 'The Son of Man must be delivered over to the hands of sinners, be crucified and on the third day be raised again.' "

Then they remembered his words.

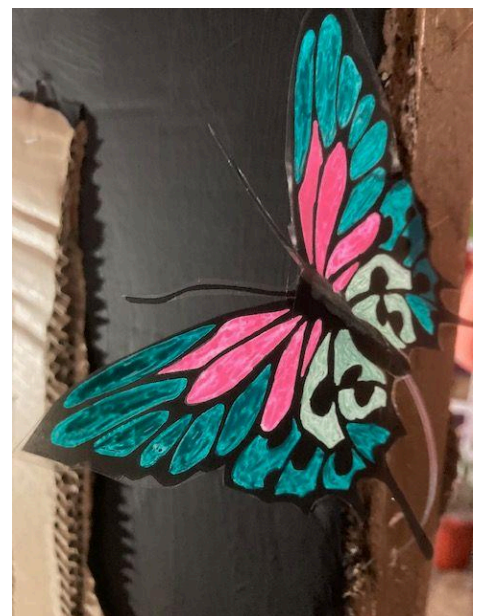
When they came back from the tomb, they told all these things to the Eleven and to all the others.

It was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the others with them who told this to the apostles.

But they did not believe the women, because their words seemed to them like nonsense.

Peter, however, got up and ran to the tomb. Bending over, he saw the strips of linen lying by themselves, and he went away, wondering to himself what had happened.

This is the Gospel of Christ
Praise be to you O Christ



Easter Reflections: The Rev'd Canon Felicity Scroggie

Profession of Faith:

Brothers and sisters, on this great day of resurrection
I ask you to profess the faith of the Church.

Do you believe and trust in God the Father?

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

Do you believe and trust in his Son Jesus Christ?

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

Do you believe and trust in the Holy Spirit?

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body, And the life everlasting**

The Intercessions:

The Peace:

The risen Christ stood among his disciples and said, 'Peace be with you!' Then they were glad when they saw the Lord.

Alleluia! The peace of the risen Christ be always with you
And also with you.

Let us offer each other an Easter sign of peace:

'The Lord is risen' *and the answer, 'He is risen indeed'*

Offertory Hymn

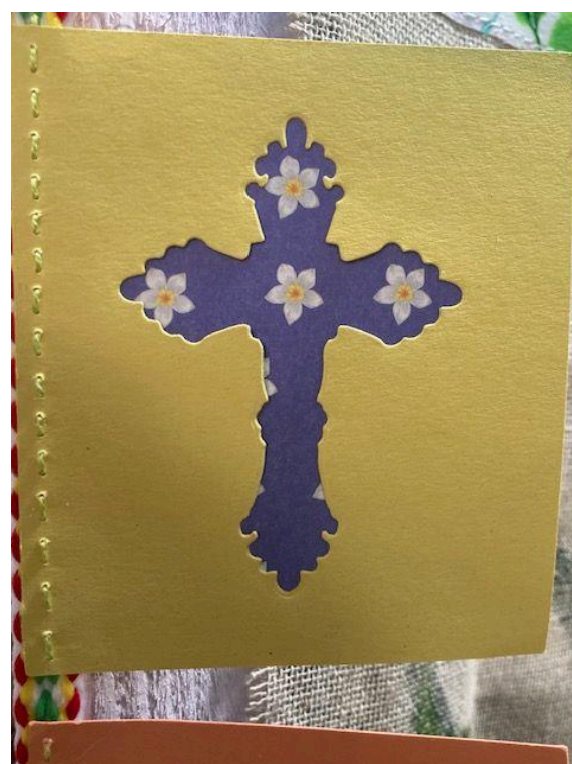
We do not pass around a collection plate but you are warmly invited to contribute to the costs of ministry in this church by using the card reader at the entrance or through a cash donation in the collection plate beside it as you arrive or leave. You can also donate through our website. Thankyou for your generosity which is much appreciated.

Hymn:

In Christ alone my hope is found,
He is my light, my strength, my song;
This Cornerstone, this solid Ground,
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm.
What heights of love, what depths of peace,
When fears are stilled, when strivings cease!
My Comforter, my All in All,
Here in the love of Christ I stand.

In Christ alone! - who took on flesh,
Fullness of God in helpless babe.
This gift of love and righteousness,
Scorned by the ones He came to save:
Till on that cross as Jesus died,
The love of God was magnified -
For every sin on Him was laid;
Here in the death of Christ I live.

There in the ground His body lay,
Light of the world by darkness slain:
Then bursting forth in glorious day
Up from the grave He rose again!
And as He stands in victory
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me,
For I am His and He is mine -
Bought with the precious blood of Christ.



No guilt in life, no fear in death,
This is the power of Christ in me;
From life's first cry to final breath,
Jesus commands my destiny.
No power of hell, no scheme of man,
Can ever pluck me from His hand:
Till He returns or calls me home,
Here in the power of Christ I'll stand.

Stuart Townend, Keith Getty © 2002, Thankyou Music

The Liturgy of the Eucharist

The Lord is here **His spirit is with us**
Lift up your hearts **We lift them to the Lord**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God
It is right to give thanks and praise

*The Eucharistic prayer continues,
during which we sing:*

**Holy, Holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might.
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the Highest!
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord
Hosanna in the highest!**

And we say:

Jesus Christ is Lord:
**Lord, by your cross and resurrection
you have set us free.
You are the Saviour of the world.**

The Eucharistic Prayer ends with:

**Blessing and honour and glory and power
be yours for ever and ever. Amen**

As our Saviour taught us so we pray:

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done,
On earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the Kingdom,
the power and the glory,
For ever and ever. Amen.**

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.
**Though we are many, we are one body,
because we all share in one bread.**

Draw near with faith.
Receive the body of our Lord Jesus Christ
which he gave for you,
and his blood which he shed for you.
Eat and drink in remembrance that he died for you,
and feed on him in your hearts by faith,
with thanksgiving.

The Distribution of Communion:

*You are welcome to receive communion today.
If you are uncertain about how to do so please see the note
inside the front cover.*

The body and blood of Christ, **Amen**

*During communion the choir will sing the anthem:
Blessed be the God and Father by Wesley.*

After communion:

**Father of all, we give you thanks and praise
that when we were still far off
you met us in your Son and brought us home.
Dying and living, he declared your love,
gave us grace, and opened the gate of glory.
May we who share Christ's body live his risen life;
We who drink his cup bring life to others;
We whom the Spirit lights give light to the world.
Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us,
So we and all your children shall be free,
and the whole earth live to praise your name;
Through Christ our Lord.
Amen**

The Blessing:

Christ who out of defeat brings new hope and a new future
fill you with his new life,
and the blessing of God Almighty
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit
be with you this joyful Eastertide and for ever
Amen.

Hymn: AMNS 428

Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son,
endless is the victory, thou o'er death hast won;
angels in bright raiment rolled the stone away,
kept the folded grave-clothes where thy body lay.

*Thine be the glory, risen conquering Son,
Endless is the victory, thou o'er death hast won.*

Lo, Jesus meets us, risen from the tomb;
lovingly he greets us, scatters fear and gloom;
let the Church with gladness hymns of triumph sing,
for her Lord now liveth, death hath lost its sting: *Refrain*

No more we doubt thee, glorious Prince of life;
life is nought without thee; aid us in our strife;
make us more than conquerors through thy deathless love;
bring us safe through Jordan to thy home above: *Refrain*

Go in the light and peace of Christ
Thanks be to God

*The children are invited to go outside for an
Easter egg hunt.*



Organ Voluntary: *Toccata by Widor*

*Christians pray for each other.
Every week our prayer team is available to pray with
you simply and privately about anything that is on your
mind, or indeed for another person about whom you
care. If you would like them to pray with / for you
please go to the Lady Chapel after the service - if they
are already praying with someone please just sit
outside the chapel until they are free.*

And an Easter poem to take away:

Resurrection by R.S. Thomas

*Easter. The grave clothes of winter
are still here, but the sepulchre
is empty. A messenger
from the tomb tells us
how a stone has been rolled
from the mind, and a tree lightens
the darkness with its blossom.
There are travellers upon the road
who have heard music blown
from a bare bough, and a child
tells us how the accident
of last year, a machine stranded
beside the way for lack
of petrol, is crowned with flowers.*



Thank You for Being With Us Today

If you would you like to support us in maintaining and improving this beautiful church please consider becoming a Friend of St Mary's for just £25 a year.

St Mary's holds a special place in the hearts of so many people in Kidlington and also much further away. As well as being an historic gem and a sacred space for all comers it is also a community resource for all sorts of events. We are here for everyone, regardless of religious affiliation. The Friends scheme is a chance for people who value St Mary's to help to maintain and improve the building and its community facilities through subscriptions, fund raising, and a range of interesting and fun events.

Money raised by the Friends will not be used for religious purposes but for the fabric of the building and community access. We have a varied programme of Friends events through the years to come.

Patrons:

- The Right Rev Steven Croft, Bishop of Oxford*
- Dr Andrew Roe, Rector of Exeter College, Oxford*
- Tim Gardam, Formerly CEO Nuffield Foundation*

Leaflets are available at the back of church or you can join online at www.fosmk.org

THANK YOU!

**A very Happy and Blessed Easter to you
from all the team in Kidlington and
Hampton Poyle.**

**We are open every day, and everyone is
welcome all through the year, for
services, events, baptisms, weddings,
and funerals.**

**Why not come to our Parish Party next
Sunday 27th April after the main
service? Food, fun and games. No
obligation to do anything you don't
want to. Come and make new friends
and relax.**