



# The Parish of Thorpe St Andrew

## WEEKLY MESSAGE FROM OUR RECTOR The Second Sunday of Easter: 19 April 2020



As I write this we have been asked, nicely, by Mr Raab (standing in for Boris) to keep up the good work that we have all been doing by staying at home and keeping safe. Whilst it might not feel like it, we are now in the greater season of Easter and each Sunday I will ensure that our Easter Candle (pictured) burns brightly with the hope of what is to come. This Sunday is traditionally known as ‘Low Sunday’ – a lesser feast comparatively to the greatest one of all – Easter. In this time of crisis we could be forgiven for feeling ‘low’ – as we are separated from gathering in the traditional way in church and as we begin to miss one another. The story of ‘doubting Thomas’, always used on this Sunday, gives us hope. Thomas is crestfallen, as

he has missed out! He wants proof of the risen presence of Christ. Yet – as soon as Christ enters the room, where the disciples are gathered, he exclaims his ‘high’ belief in our risen Christ. May we continue to have that faith and hope and love burning in us as our Body of Christ evolves and takes account of these strange times that we live in – so that we can declare, just as Thomas did – ‘My Lord and my God!’ **Alleluia! Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

**NEWSFLASH:** Stay at home – and keep safe – and if you need anything – please ring me! Thank you too for all the lovely Easter cards and gifts (over 30). You are all very kind. The young people of the parish were also very grateful for their ‘church’ eggs. Thank you!

*Fr James*

# ONLINE SERVICES THIS WEEK – 19 April 2020

19 April at 9.30am

**LIVE** on Facebook-Eucharist for Easter 2

23 April at 8.30am

**LIVE** on Facebook-Morning Prayer for St George

Our page: [www.facebook.com/ThorpeStAndrewParishChurch](http://www.facebook.com/ThorpeStAndrewParishChurch)

## SERVICE DETAILS AND PRAYER INTENTIONS

**HYMNS** Jesus lives! Thy terrors now; Ye choirs of new Jerusalem

**READINGS** Acts 2:1-4a, 22-32; John 20:19-end

### **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

**Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!** Jesus said, '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. **Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

### **INTERCESSIONS** *Please pray for*

- **Our Bishops** Graham, Alan and Jonathan
- **Ecumenical** The Roman Catholic Church – The Diocese of East Anglia, particularly Bishop Alan Hopes.
- **Anglican Communion** The Church of Ireland.
- **All those affected by the Covid-19 pandemic:** all key workers in NHS and all other fields, particularly our care homes – Broadland View, Larchwood, Dussindale and Mary Chapman Court
- **All who live** in Rowton Heath, Royalist Drive, Saker Close
- **Those who are sick or in need**, including: Brenda Debenham, Brian Riseborough, Mark Little, Paul Carter, Monique Rowland, Jennifer Jones, Janet Fancy, Colin Hicks, Glenys Paflin, Audrey Camp, Alan Harrison, Jill Hall, Grace Howes, Peter and Gaynor Garrood, Anne Farthing
- **The recently departed** Diane Whiskerd, Jeanette Wilkin, Eileen Moore, Bishop Simon Barrington-Ward, Janet Godfrey
- **Those whose anniversary of death occurs at this time** including Ken Mayes, Bertie Betts, Kathleen Hender, Charlotte Woodward, Pat Battle, Winifred (Winnie) George

## OTHER NOTICES AND USEFUL INFORMATION

**PARISH LIFE** A huge thank you to Chris George, our printers, and Patience Skelton for coordinating the effort to get this out. If you don't have it delivered to your home I have some spare copies or contact Patience Skelton and we can arrange for you get a copy sent out.

**CHURCH TIMES** I had a cheery message from an old college friend, saying, 'I see you are on the front page of the Church Times...**again!**' There was a selection of 100 faces from online services this week and I am pleased to say we were chosen! I first appeared on the front page of the Church Times, following my ordination in July 2011!

**PLANNED GIVING AND COLLECTIONS** We have had several questions about planned giving whilst our church buildings are closed under the COVID-19 restrictions. We are not currently able to receive, nor count, Free Will Offering / Gift Aid envelopes. If you have been thinking about setting up a Standing Order, or wish to make an online payment, please contact Sally, our Treasurer, for details, on [treasurersa@gmail.com](mailto:treasurersa@gmail.com). When the situation with Covid-19 becomes clearer, we will give further guidance.

**CAFÉ CHURCH** The Facebook online service on 26 April is a Café Church, since we thought this gave us an opportunity to share in different styles of worship. If anyone in our Café Church family has any ideas to put in – please contact the Rector or our AWA (Nicole King).

**ZOOM COFFEE MORNING: ST GEORGE'S DAY – THURSDAY 23 APRIL at 11.00am** We are trialling an opportunity to chat and join in together via video conferencing. Not for everyone, but for some and some of us have already been doing it with our friends and family. The Zoom invitation is be included in the weekly email and we'll send out a reminder on Wednesday (day before). I have been reluctant to do this because not everyone can join in – but now that our new methods of communication are established we can try this.

**VOLUNTEERING** We are sharing in the work of food delivery/shopping with our colleagues in Royal British Legion. Please get in touch with Fr James on 01603 439160 ([rector@thorpeparishchurch.org](mailto:rector@thorpeparishchurch.org)) or **DO YOU NEED OUR HELP?** If you need food delivering/medication collecting, please contact Fr James we can signpost a volunteer.

**FOODBANK** Thank you for all those who brought things in for the FoodBank. I am receiving items for the FoodBank at the Rectory, for onward transmission to the FoodBank. Please leave on the doorstep and I will add them to our collection. This is only for whilst churches are closed!

**100 CLUB** From Linda Olney and Ann Cox: After discussions, it has been decided that due to the current situation with Covid-19, the monthly 100 Club draw and the renewal of membership will be suspended. This means that, when we start back, we will still have two months in hand. We hope that all members will understand the need to take this difficult decision; we will try to keep you in touch with any developments. Thank you for your continued support.

**UPDATE ON SOCIAL EVENTS IN 2020** There is no certainty about when the restrictions will be lifted, but I can assure you that there are people who have all of this under very active consideration. There is the possibility of some 'virtual' events. The following have **not** yet been cancelled or rearranged.

- 28 June 2020 at 2.30pm Summer Concert/ at Parish Church
- 18 July 2020 11.00am to 3.00pm Summer Fete in Parish Church grounds. Sponsorship offers to Fr James, as soon as possible.
- 5, 12, 19 and 26 August Organ Recital Series. Recitals at 1.00pm.

**AUTUMN CRAFT FAIR, 31 OCTOBER 2020 (11am-3pm)** Subject to restrictions operating at the time this is the replacement for all the stallholders who had booked for our Spring Craft Fair. More details later.

**KEEPING CONNECTED** You can keep connected by:

- Tuning into our (technology permitting) Facebook live streamed service every Sunday at 9.30am, worshipping together electronically.
- Receiving our weekly emails and other updates. Please supply your email to [rector@thorpeparishchurch.org](mailto:rector@thorpeparishchurch.org). Hard copies will be posted out to those without emails.
- Finding resources/updates on Thorpe St Andrew Parish Church Facebook page and on our Parish Life website - [www.parish-life.co.uk](http://www.parish-life.co.uk)

## FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

Please contact our Rector,

The Revd James Stewart (Fr James)

Tel: 01603 439160 or email him at [rector@thorpeparishchurch.org](mailto:rector@thorpeparishchurch.org)