

COLLECT

O Lord, we beseech you mercifully to hear the prayers of your people who call upon you;
and grant that they may both perceive and know what things they ought to do, and also may have grace and power faithfully to fulfil them;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

FIRST READING Jonah 3:10 – end of 4

A reading from the book of Jonah.

When God saw what the people of Nineveh did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it. But this was very displeasing to Jonah, and he became angry. He prayed to the LORD and said, "O LORD! Is not this what I said while I was still in my own country? That is why I fled to Tarshish at the beginning; for I knew that you are a gracious God and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and ready to relent from punishing. And now, O LORD, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live." And the LORD said, "Is it right for you to be angry?" Then Jonah went out of the city and sat down east of the city, and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in the shade, waiting to see what would become of the city. The LORD God appointed a bush, and made it come up over Jonah, to give shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort; so Jonah was very happy about the bush. But when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the bush, so that it withered. When the sun rose, God prepared a sultry east wind, and the sun beat down on the head of Jonah so that he was faint and asked that he might die. He said, "It is better for me to die than to live." But God said to Jonah, "Is it right for you to be angry about the bush?" And he said, "Yes, angry enough to die." Then the LORD said, "You are concerned about the bush, for which you did not labour and which you did not grow; it came into being in a night and perished in a night. And should I not be concerned about Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than a hundred

and twenty thousand people who do not know their right hand from their left, and also many animals?"

Or **Exodus 16:2-15**

PSALM Psalm 145:1-8

R Great is the Lord and highly to be praised.

I will exalt you, O God my King, and bless your name for ever and ever. Every day will I bless you and praise your name for ever and ever. Great is the Lord and highly to be praised; his greatness is beyond all searching out. **R**

One generation shall praise your works to another and declare your mighty acts. They shall speak of the majesty of your glory, and I will tell of all your wonderful deeds. **R**

They shall speak of the might of your marvellous acts, and I will also tell of your greatness. They shall pour forth the story of your abundant kindness and joyfully sing of your righteousness. The Lord is gracious and merciful, long-suffering and of great goodness. **R**

SECOND READING Philippians 1:21-end

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Philippians.

For to me, living is Christ and dying is gain. If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labour for me; and I do not know which I prefer. I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better; but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, so that I may share abundantly in your boasting in Christ Jesus when I come to you again. Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel, and are in no way intimidated by your opponents. For them this is evidence of their destruction, but of your salvation. And this is God's doing. For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ, but of

suffering for him as well – since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

GOSPEL Matthew 20:1-16

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

Jesus said to his disciples: "The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire labourers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the labourers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the market-place; and he said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.' So they went. When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, 'Why are you standing here idle all day?' They said to him, 'Because no one has hired us.' He said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard.' When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, 'Call the labourers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.' When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, saying, 'These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.' But he replied to one of them, 'Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?' So the last will be first, and the first will be last."

POST COMMUNION

Almighty God,
you have taught us through your Son that love is the fulfilling of the law:
grant that we may love you with our whole heart
and our neighbours as ourselves;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.



Great is the Lord and highly to be praised

SIGNPOST

the weekly newsletter of
St George's, Tuffley with St Margaret's, Whaddon
 Worshipping, Caring, Pioneering,
 'Growing God's Kingdom'
Welcome to all

Diary Dates from 24th to 31st March

Sun 24	PALM SUNDAY HOLY WEEK Crossroads available		
	9.00am	St M's	Parish Communion
	10.30am	EM	Walk from English Martyrs to Grange Baptists to St George's with donkey Crucifer: Sylvia E Coffee: Dianne/Erna
Mon 25	5.00pm	Zoom	Evening Prayer
	7.00pm	St M's	Candlelit Compline
Tue 26	9.30am	SH	Coffee Pot
	10.00am	St G's	Parish Communion
	10.30am	St G's	Stations of the Cross
	5.00pm	LC	Evening Prayer
Wed 27	8.15am	Zoom	Morning Prayer
Thu 28	MAUNDY THURSDAY		
	10.30am	St M's	Parish Communion
	7.30pm	St G's	Reflective Communion followed by quiet watch
Fri 29	GOOD FRIDAY		
	10.00am	St B	Messy Easter
	1.00pm	St G's	Walk of Witness from St George's Church to Grange Baptist Church
	2.00pm	GB	Holy Communion
	3.00pm	EM	The Passion of the Lord and Roman Catholic Mass
Sat 30	HOLY SATURDAY		
	8.00pm	St M's	EASTER VIGIL
Sun 31	EASTER DAY		
	10.30am	St G's	Joint Easter Communion Crucifer: Sylvia C Readers: Joceline/Paul Intercessions: Derek Coffee: Sylvia/Dot
	4.00pm	St M's	Easter Family Praise

St G's = St George's, St M's = St Margaret's,
 MH = Main Hall, SH = Small Hall, SL = Softley Lounge,
 LC = Lady Chapel, St B = St Barnabas,
 GB = Grange Baptist

Evening Prayer meetings either by Zoom or in person in the Lady Chapel on the 1st & 2nd April and 8th & 9th April have been cancelled.

Keep bringing items for the Foodbank on a Sunday. Collection point is the tray at the back of the Church. The Foodbank need **LONG LIFE FRUIT JUICE & MILK (NOT CHILLED), TINNED CUSTARD, TINNED FISH, DEODORANT.** Thank you.

We pray for...

Laura, Angela, Margaret, Mark, Johanna, James, Peter, Hans, George, Jenny, Richard, Hilary, Sarah.

Birthdays:

Mark Barber 24th, Marlene Thomas 30th, David & Kim Westcott celebrate a wedding anniversary on 27th and Rachel & Paul celebrate their wedding anniversary on 30th.

Hymns at St George's: 14 583

Changes to Easter publicity: In last week's Signpost we advised of the change to the start time to 7.30pm of the Reflective Communion and quiet watch at St George's. On Good Friday, the Walk of Witness will not start from St Barnabas but from St George's, at 1.00pm not 12.30pm. On Easter Day there will not be a 9.00am at St Margaret's. Instead, the 10.30am at St George's will be a Joint Easter Communion.

Celebrating Easter together: Please do come along to St Margaret's for the Service of Light on Holy Saturday evening. This special service is the first celebration of Easter in the Benefice and is full of symbolism, music, and rejoicing. On Easter Day morning, please do also come to St George's at 10.30am for the next celebration of Easter together.

Flowers for Easter: It's not too late to make a donation in respect of flowers in memory of a loved one, see a Churchwarden or pick up an envelope from the table at the back of St George's.

Military Wives Concert: Glenda and Darrell will have tickets on them this morning, just £10.00 each. If you can't buy today tickets will also be available at Coffee Pot on Tuesday or from the Church Office on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday mornings before 11.30am.

Confirmation: Bishop Rachel will be leading a Confirmation Service at St Margaret's on Sunday 28th April at 5.00pm. If you would like to be Confirmed or would like to know more, please do talk to Rachel or Laine about this.

CONTACTING US:

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 There is an answer phone in use outside of office hours.
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 Email messages are monitored outside of office hours.

The Administration office is open on Wednesday, Thursday & Friday mornings until 11.30am.

We are part of the Church in Tuffley

