

Sunday 21st April, Easter 4

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Churchwarden Jane:- 680522

Churchwarden Barry 680734

9.30am Eucharist 21st April, 2024

11am Holy Communion on 24th April, 2024

Hymn:- 427 For the healing of the Nations.

Collect:- Almighty God, whose Son Jesus Christ is the resurrection and the life: raise us, who trust in him, from the death of sin to the life of righteousness, that we may seek those things which are above, where he reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

First Reading:- A reading from the Acts of the Apostles. The Jewish rulers, elders, and scribes assembled in Jerusalem, with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. When they had made the prisoners stand in their midst, they inquired, 'By what power or by what name did you do this?' Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, 'Rulers of the people and elders, if we are questioned today because of a good deed done to someone who was sick and are asked how this man has been healed, let it be known to all of you, and to all the people of Israel, that this man is standing before you in good health by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead. This Jesus is "the stone that was rejected by you, the builders; it has become the cornerstone." There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved.'

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

Response to Psalm 23:- The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not be in want

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not be in want. He makes me lie down in green pastures and leads me beside still waters.

R 3

He revives my soul and guides me along right pathways for his name's sake. Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

R

You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me; you have anointed my head with oil, and my cup is running over. Surely your goodness and

mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

R

Second Reading:- A reading from the first letter of John.

We know love by this, that the Son of God laid down his life for us – and we ought to lay down our lives for one another. How does God's love abide in anyone who has the world's goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help? Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action. And by this we will know that we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts before him whenever our hearts condemn us; for God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before God; and we receive from him whatever we ask, because we obey his commandments and do what pleases God. And this is his commandment, that we should believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. All who obey his commandments abide in him, and he abides in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit that he has given us.

GOSPEL

Gradual Hymn:- 467 How Sweet the Name of Jesus

Gospel:- Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

Jesus said to the Pharisees: 'I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away – and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father.'

Offertory Hymn:- 589 The King of Love

Anthems:- My Shepherd Lord - Oxley

Hymn:- 478 In Heavenly Love Abiding

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Post Communion Prayer Merciful Father,
you gave your Son Jesus Christ to be the good shepherd,
and in his love for us to lay down his life and rise again:
keep us always under his protection,
and give us grace to follow in his steps;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen

**Recessional:- 208 v.v. 5.6.8. Blessed city
Heavenly Salem**

Please remember in your prayers this week the sick of the Parish:- Sarina, Janice Pinnock, Jean Rochester, Cynthia Foster, Christopher Munns, Barry Ireland, Amy Su Armitage, Velma Munns, Dave Cheney, Nina Beetson, Peter Fisher, Martin Fisher and John Worthington.

Years Mind:- Alice Shipton

A prayer for our Confirmation candidates

God of all ages, You send out your Spirit to touch the hearts of all people, Look kindly on our candidates who have been confirmed as they seek to hear your voice. In your prayers please pray for our confirmation candidates: Gerry, Megan, Jamie, Abi, Isobel, Jessica, Rosalia, Chiara, Maisie, Freya and Alexa. That they may grow in faith and love for God.

Floodlight Sponsorship

Finedon Buffs

What is coming up

Flower Festival Meeting Monday 22nd April in Church at 7pm

Church AGM Sunday 28th April at 10.45 am

Sponsored Bible Read Saturday May 11th in Church

The Sponsored Bible Read will take place on Saturday 11th May in church between 10:00am and 3:00pm. When we did this two years ago, volunteers read through the Gospels of St Matthew, St Mark and St Luke. This time we plan to start reading St John and then move onto Acts. We are asking for volunteers to read for 15-minute slots. We are also asking for volunteers to be stewards/timers for one-hour slots; if preferred this can be done in pairs. As well as reading through the Gospel, the idea is to collect sponsors with monies going to church. In 2022 we raised £1,600, which included Gift Aid for those who pay tax. Any questions to Pete Grindrod. There is a list on the Notice board.

Meanwhile: - **Christian Aid Coffee** Morning will be taking place at the Chapel on 11th May from 10am. Donations of cakes greatly received on that day.

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13th May:- Fund Raising Meeting 7pm, Jean's Manor.

Crowning of the May Queen and Afternoon tea 19th May 2pm to 4pm

6th June the 80th Celebration of D Day 7.30 pm in Church followed by refreshments for all.

Sunday 23rd June Rushden Town Band Concert Pimms, Punch and Pop Music tickets £10.00 accompanied children free.

Saturday 29th June Church Fete 12 to 4pm : If you would like to run a stall we are looking for people to organise a Plant Stall, Jigsaw stall, and a paper book stall. Speak to Churchwarden Jane please.

Plants for the Fete please bring to Church on Wednesday 26th June or Saturday 29th June before midday. Joyce and Lynn will be running the stall.

Joanne Needle is asking for **tombola** prizes for her stall please. Ring 682098 if you can supply anything.

Still waiting for offers for a Jigsaw stall and book stall.

Latest number Quiz is ready in Church by the south door £1.00 a sheet.

Defibrillator Update

Linda thanks everyone for their support and has now raised enough to purchase the Defibrillator. Any further donations will go towards replacing the batteries in the future. The books will still be on sale.

Years Mind Book

With thanks to Velma Munns who has given us a lovely new book for Year's Mind list. It is on the piano at present. Please add you loved one's names if you wish them to be on the prayer list at the appropriate time.

Coffee morning

The April coffee morning brought in £166.50 for the Restoration Fund. This is a great way to catch up with old friends, purchase a piece of homemade cake, and make new friends. Thank you to all who supported us and gave the delicious cakes and raffle prizes.