



7<sup>th</sup> April 2024 *Second Sunday of Easter*

## Welcome to Saint Laurence.

Adventurers (groups for children and young people) meet during the 9.30 am Mass. Leaders will normally invite children to join in with these at the appropriate point in the service. Activity packs and children's service books are available from the back of church.

You are warmly invited to stay for refreshments in the Main Hall after the 9.30 Mass.

<b>Today</b>	Holy Communion	8.00 am
7 <sup>th</sup> April	Sung Parish Mass	9.30 am
<i>2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Easter</i>	Evensong on Zoom	6.30 pm
<b>Tuesday</b>	No Morning Prayer today	
9 <sup>th</sup> April		
<b>Wednesday</b>	Morning Prayer, Lady Chapel	8.45 am
10 <sup>th</sup> April	Staff Meeting, Parish Office	9.00 am
<i>William Law, priest, spiritual writer, 1761; William of Ockham, friar, philosopher, teacher of the faith, 1347</i>	Said Mass, Lady Chapel	11.00 am
	First Communion Preparation, Parish Office	2.00 pm
	Evening Prayer, Lady Chapel	4.15 pm
<b>Thursday</b>	No Morning Prayer today	
11 <sup>th</sup> April	Easter Service, The Oaks Residential Home	10.45 am
<b>Friday</b>	Coffee Morning, Main Hall	10.30 am
12 <sup>th</sup> April		
<b>Saturday</b>	Organ Teaching	9.30 am
13 <sup>th</sup> April		
<b>Next Sunday</b>	Holy Communion	8.00 am
14 <sup>th</sup> April	Sung Parish Mass with Admission of Chorister	9.30 am
<i>3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Easter</i>	First Communion Preparation, Parish Office	3.00 pm
	Evensong on Zoom	6.30 pm

**Evensong readings this Sunday:** Wisdom 9:1-12; Galatians 4:1-5

**Mass readings next Sunday:** Acts 3:12-19; 1 John 3:1-7; Luke 24:36b-48

**Evensong readings next Sunday:** Deuteronomy 7:7-13; Revelation 2:1-11

**Saturday Pathsweepers:** 13<sup>th</sup> – Stewart and Lillington. **Coffee:** 14<sup>th</sup> – Penny, Clive and Jane

*Please let Revd Catherine or Deborah Masterson know of anyone who is ill or in need of a pastoral visit, or housebound and wanting to receive the sacrament at home – or if you would appreciate a conversation or visit for any reason.*

## NOTICES

**APCM Report booklets** are available today. Please take one from the back of church as you leave. **The date for this year's APCM** is Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> April, after the 9.30am Mass. At this meeting we will be electing up to 8 Parochial Church Council members. The PCC is an important decision-making group in the life of the church. Please speak to Revd Catherine or one of the Churchwardens if you would be interested in considering this role.

**The Electoral Roll** is now ready for inspection. To check your entry please speak with Keith Stewart, our Electoral Roll Officer, on 01708 227928.

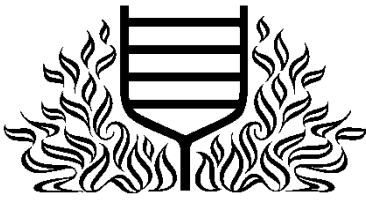
**Quiz Night** in aid of the Church Building Improvements Project on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> May, 7.15 for 7.30pm in the Main Hall. Tickets £8 per person, tables of 8, come as a team or come to join a table of others. Bring your own food and drink if you wish. Please book in advance by 8<sup>th</sup> May with Joanne in the Parish Office or speak to Debbie Stewart or Susannah after a service.



**Just One Swap...** It's easy to feel overwhelmed by the scale of problems in creation. Sometimes, we all feel, 'But what can I do? I'm just one person, my changes would be so small!' In Uganda, they have a saying, when the scale of a problem seems too large for just one person to contribute to change. They say: Drop by drop, fills the pot!

At St Laurence, rather than feeling there's nothing we can do, we'd like to encourage one another to contribute our 'drops' into the pot of caring for creation. We've come up with ways to make our everyday choices a little greener: some ideas for simple swaps around the home. Keep an eye on Porchtalk: we'll be sharing a different swap each month!

**Simple Swap No.2** - Kitchen Roll: Why not swap kitchen roll for repurposed cloths made from worn out garments, towels or flannels? We could all mop up spills and mess without costing the environment or ourselves! Repurposed cloths can simply be washed with our normal laundry and used - well, almost forever!



# AT THE MASS

7<sup>th</sup> April 2024

*Second Sunday of Easter*

**Introit** 194 Alleluia, alleluia

**Setting** A New People's Mass - Murray

## Collect of the Day

Almighty Father,  
you have given your only Son to die for our sins  
and to rise again for our justification:  
grant us so to put away the leaven of malice and wickedness  
that we may always serve you  
in pureness of living and truth;  
through the merits of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

## Acts 4:32-35

The whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common. With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. There was not a needy person among them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold. They laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

## Responsorial Psalm 133

John McCann



*The Lord's bless-ing is life\_\_\_\_\_ for\_ e - ver.*

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Behold how good and pleasant it is to dwell together in unity.

It is like the precious oil upon the head, running down upon the beard,

Even on Aaron's beard, running down upon the collar of his clothing.

It is like the dew of Hermon running down upon the hills of Zion. For there the Lord has promised his blessing: even life for evermore.

## **1 John 1:1-2.2**

We declare to you what was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the word of life— this life was revealed, and we have seen it and testify to it, and declare to you the eternal life that was with the Father and was revealed to us— we declare to you what we have seen and heard so that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. We are writing these things so that our joy may be complete.

This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light and in him there is no darkness at all. If we say that we have fellowship with him while we are walking in darkness, we lie and do not do what is true; but if we walk in the light as he himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; and he is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

**Alleluia**

Taizé

## **John 20:19-31**

It was evening on the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.' After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, 'Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.' When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, 'Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.'

But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, 'We have seen the Lord.' But he said to them, 'Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.'

A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.' Then he said to Thomas, 'Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.' Thomas answered him, 'My Lord and my God!' Jesus said to him, 'Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.'

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

### **Offertory hymn**

Blessed Thomas, doubt no longer,  
See the wounds in hand and side,  
Now behold the risen Saviour  
Who for thee has bled and died,  
And from death's dark pit arising  
Lives in body glorified.

Here behold the love victorious,  
Over death triumphant now,  
See the feet where nails were driven,  
And thy faith in him avow:  
For he lives, the world's redeemer,  
Unto whom all knees shall bow.

Thomas looked upon the Master:  
Was it then indeed the Lord?  
Were those wounds no phantom tokens?  
Did the sight with truth accord?  
Scarce believing, joy unbounded,  
Leapt to greet the Saviour's word.

Prostrate falling, Thomas worshipped:  
'O my Master, Lord and God',  
Here in truth was Christ the Saviour  
Who the path of suffering trod,  
And, to ransom souls unnumbered,  
Broke in pieces Satan's rod.

*continues over...*

Thomas, sight has now convinced thee,  
Faith within thy heart has stirred;  
Blessèd more those faithful servants,  
Trusting in the Saviour's word,  
Who, though vision is denied them,  
Still believe, and own him Lord.

Grant, O Father, that among them  
We thy servants may be known,  
And the ground be ever fruitful  
Where the seed of faith was sown,  
Till at length in heaven's glory,  
Faith and vision are but one.

<b>Anthem</b>	See, what a morning, gloriously bright (2003) Text: Stuart Townend & Keith Getty Music: Stuart Townend & Keith Getty
<b>Communion hymn</b>	197 Alleluia, alleluia, give thanks to the risen Lord
<b>Final hymn</b>	216 The day of resurrection
<b>Organ Voluntary</b>	Festival Prelude on 'Victory' – C.S. Lang

## FOR YOUR PRAYERS

*Prayer request forms are available at the back of church. Please use them if you wish us to pray for someone.*

**Sunday:** Aloma Moore.

**Wednesday:** Rosemary Watkins, Mary Greig, Denise Comer, James Tape, Rosalind Manley, Brian Shaw, Bob Bossey, Baby Charles, Glynis Whiting, Michael Folkes, Fr Tom Keighley, Sylvia Wilson, Simon Pols, Mary-Anne Madden, Florence Collins, Doreen, Victoria Wright, William Holden, Shirley Gunary, Jan Black, Michael McSweeney, Ann O'Riordan, Alan Butcher, Charles Osmond.

**Additional Prayers:** Adam, Sophie, Sebastian, Alexandrina, Eddie and Ezra preparing for First Communion. All those receiving Home Communion.

**Recently departed:** Helen Holden, Dennis Osmond, Jean Biggs, Baby Taylor Hayden.

**Anniversaries of the departed:** Margaret Brereton, Diana Norledge, Iris Stewart, Marion Gunary, Don Mowat, Krystyna Wojtecka, Rene Knight, Ivy Brame, Joan Menah, Kathleen Jones, Jimmy Turner, Gladys May, Bess Jones.

## CHARITY OF THE MONTH: MACULAR SOCIETY



Every day, around 300 people are diagnosed with macular disease. It's the biggest cause of sight loss in the UK. Macular disease is cruel and isolating. It steals your sight, your independence, and your ability to do the things you love. It can affect people of any age — even children — but not enough is known about why, and there is still no cure.

The macula is part of the retina at the back of the eye. It is only about 5mm across, but is responsible for our central vision, most of our colour vision and the fine detail of what we see. A healthy macula is about 250 microns (one quarter of a millimetre) thick. The macula has a very high concentration of photoreceptor cells – the cells that detect light. They send signals to the brain, which interprets them as images. The rest of the retina processes our peripheral, or side vision.

Nearly 1.5m people in the UK have macular disease. Age-related macular degeneration (AMD) is the most common condition, generally affecting people over the age of 55. AMD is the biggest cause of sight loss in the UK, affecting more than 700,000 people. A group of rare inherited conditions called macular dystrophies can affect much younger people. Some of these rare conditions can appear in childhood, although some are not diagnosed until later in life.

### CARD PAYMENT DONATIONS

We are always pleased to welcome both visitors and regular attendees to share our worship in this beautiful Grade 1 listed building. Please feel free to use our safe and secure card payment machine for confidential donations, located by the main door exit. Contributions help us maintain the substantial upkeep of this building for the benefit of the local community and our broader work as a church in general. Donations help to ensure that the church can continue to benefit future generations and the building can remain open to all as a haven of God's peace. Whatever you feel disposed to give will be thankfully received and faithfully applied.

### EASYFUNDRAISING

The church is registered (as St Laurence Church, Upminster) on [easyfundraising.org.uk](https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk) - if you register an account, select the church as a cause and download the web browser extension then every time you spend money on many retail websites and have activated the extension, a percentage of your spend will be donated to St Laurence at no cost to you. The individual amounts are small but every little adds up - please help us via this route if you can.

## THANK YOU FOR YOUR SPONSORSHIP.....

If you would like to know about sponsorship, please pick up a leaflet from the back of church or speak to Jean and Cheryl (Churchwardens), Susannah (Rector) or Joanne (Parish Administrator).

### CONTACTS

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**Parish Safeguarding Officer** Akosua Boachie

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**Acting Director of Music** Nigel Lockwood

parish.office@upminsterparish.co.uk

**Parish Office** Joanne Chapman

01708 220696/07592 946992 parish.office@upminsterparish.co.uk

Open: Tue. 3.30-6pm, Wed. 9-11am (Staff Meeting), Thur. 9-11.30am.

**Hall Bookings** Becky Perchard

07341 434798 halls.bookings@upminsterparish.co.uk

**Planned Giving** treasurer@upminsterparish.co.uk

**Website** www.upminsterparish.co.uk

**Address** St Laurence Church, Corbets Tey Road, Upminster, RM14 2BB

**Welcome to the Parish Church of Upminster.** If we have not met you before, do introduce yourself. If you wish, give these details to one of the officials.

Name

Telephone