

St. James the Great, East Malling

Prayers, Readings & Notices for Sunday 28th April 2019 *The Second Sunday of Easter*

Collect

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.

Readings

Old Testament Reading: *Exodus 14.10-31; 15.20,21*

¹⁰ As Pharaoh drew near, the Israelites looked back, and there were the Egyptians advancing on them. In great fear the Israelites cried out to the Lord. ¹¹They said to Moses, 'Was it because there were no graves in Egypt that you have taken us away to die in the wilderness? What have you done to us, bringing us out of Egypt? ¹²Is this not the very thing we told you in Egypt, "Let us alone and let us serve the Egyptians"? For it would have been better for us to serve the Egyptians than to die in the wilderness.' ¹³But Moses said to the people, 'Do not be afraid, stand firm, and see the deliverance that the Lord will accomplish for you today; for the Egyptians whom you see today you shall never see again. ¹⁴The Lord will fight for you, and you have only to keep still.' ¹⁵ Then the Lord said to Moses, 'Why do you cry out to me? Tell the Israelites to go forward. ¹⁶But you lift up your staff, and stretch out your hand over the sea and divide it, that the Israelites may go into the sea on dry ground. ¹⁷Then I will harden the hearts of the Egyptians so that they will go in after them; and so I will gain glory for myself over Pharaoh and all his army, his chariots, and his chariot drivers. ¹⁸And the Egyptians shall know that I am the Lord, when I have gained glory for myself over Pharaoh, his chariots, and his chariot drivers.' ¹⁹ The angel of God who was going before the Israelite army moved and went behind them; and the pillar of cloud moved from in front of them and took its place behind them. ²⁰It came between the army of Egypt and the army of Israel. And so the cloud was there with the darkness, and it lit up the night; one did not come near the other all night. ²¹ Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea. The Lord drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night, and turned the sea into dry land; and the waters were divided. ²²The Israelites went into the sea on dry ground, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. ²³The Egyptians pursued, and went into the sea after them, all of Pharaoh's horses, chariots, and chariot drivers. ²⁴At the morning watch the Lord in the pillar of fire and cloud looked down upon the Egyptian army, and threw the Egyptian army into panic. ²⁵He clogged their chariot wheels so that they turned with difficulty. The Egyptians said, 'Let us flee from the Israelites, for the Lord is fighting for them against Egypt.'

²⁶ Then the Lord said to Moses, 'Stretch out your hand over the sea, so that the water may come back upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots and chariot drivers.' ²⁷So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and at dawn the sea returned to its normal depth. As the Egyptians fled before it, the Lord tossed the Egyptians into the sea. ²⁸The waters returned and covered the chariots and the chariot drivers, the entire army of Pharaoh that had followed them into the sea; not one of them remained. ²⁹But the Israelites walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. ³⁰ Thus the Lord saved Israel that day from the Egyptians; and

Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore. ³¹Israel saw the great work that the Lord did against the Egyptians. So the people feared the Lord and believed in the Lord and in his servant Moses. ²⁰ Then the prophet Miriam, Aaron's sister, took a tambourine in her hand; and all the women went out after her with tambourines and with dancing. ²¹And Miriam sang to them: 'Sing to the Lord, for he has triumphed gloriously; horse and rider he has thrown into the sea.'

New Testament Reading: *Acts 5.27-32*

²⁷ When they had brought them, they had them stand before the council. The high priest questioned them, ²⁸saying, 'We gave you strict orders not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and you are determined to bring this man's blood on us.' ²⁹But Peter and the apostles answered, 'We must obey God rather than any human authority. ³⁰The God of our ancestors raised up Jesus, whom you had killed by hanging him on a tree. ³¹God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Saviour, so that he might give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. ³²And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey him.'

Gospel Reading: *John 20.19-31*

¹⁹ When it was evening on that day, 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.' ²⁰After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹Jesus said to them again, 'Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.' ²²When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, 'Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.' ²⁴ But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵So 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.' ²⁶ 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.' ²⁷Then 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.' ²⁸Thomas answered him, 'My Lord and my God!' ²⁹Jesus said to him, 'Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.' ³⁰ Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. ³¹But 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.

Post Communion

Lord God our Father, through our Saviour Jesus Christ you have assured your children of eternal life and in baptism have made us one with him: deliver us from the death of sin and raise us to new life in your love, in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, by the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Notices

Following the format of this year's Benefice Lent course I will be offering a 'home group' study course led by me called 'Reflecting on Film.' At the moment I anticipate this will be a monthly course that will look at particular films (some older than others) and invite participants broadly to reflect on what we can learn about our faith and its place in the world. The course will meet in the evening on a day and at a venue yet to be decided.

If you enjoyed the format of the Lent course and want to develop your faith through discussion and reflection with others, then this may be a group for you. If you like your theology top down and spoon fed it probably isn't. If you are interested then please contact me and if there is enough interest we'll go ahead.

Fr Nick

"Uneven Song" a novel by Richard Dove, based in and around St James, will be available to buy in church for £10. All local sales revenues will be split 50:50 between the publisher and Church funds. Richard will also do a book signing for anyone who is interested.

Organist required to play for weekly Sunday services, principal festivals and (*if desired*) occasional offices. 2-manual Gray & Davison tracker action organ, well maintained. May need to attend Friday choir practice if requested. Fees in accordance with RSCM recommendations for a rural parish. If you are interested, please speak to/contact Fr Nick direct.

Other Notices

The next **Mothers' Union** meeting will be held at 1pm -2.30pm on Thursday, 2nd May at St John the Baptist Church, Wateringbury. The speaker will be Nicky, who will speak about a charity she has set up to build an orphanage in Tanzania. All welcome to come along.

If you have any special services or events which you would like put into the Wateringbury weekly newsletter please email sjbnewsletter99@gmail.com by the copy deadline of noon on Wednesdays.



St James the Great @ East Malling

You can also find us on the website



<https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/9954/>

For Baptisms, Weddings and other arrangements, please contact the Vicar - details below

For all other enquiries email Sandra at parishofficeemwt@gmail.com - please see note below

Please respect that Monday is the Vicar's day off

**Services, and other happenings, up to
Sunday 5th May 2019**

Tuesday 30th

10am & 2pm Open Church, Teston

Wednesday 1st May

1.30pm Toddlers, EM

7pm Wedding Rehearsal, Wateringbury

7.30pm Pioneers Youth Gp, Teston

Thursday 2nd

9am Holy Communion, EM (NW)

1pm MU Meeting, Wateringbury

Saturday 4th

10.30am FoSJK Coffee Morning

3pm Messy Church, Wateringbury (RD)

Sunday 5th

8.30am BCP Holy Communion, EM (NW)

9.45am Morning Praise, EM (ABr)

9.45am Family Service, Teston (DP)

10am Eucharist, Wateringbury (NW)

12 noon Baptism, EM (NW)

5pm WATCH Club Youth Gp, W'bury Village Hall

Please send all items for inclusion in the
Sunday Service Notice Sheets to Sandra at parishofficeemwt@gmail.com by 9am on Wednesdays.
This only applies up to Wednesday 1st May 2019

Confirmation of where to send your notices after this date will appear in next week's sheet

Parish Office tel.no: 01732 843282

Parish Office email: parishofficeemwt@gmail.com

(Hours: Weds 9.30am-3pm & Thurs 9.30am-Noon)

Vicar's email: father.nick@btinternet.com