

**A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles**

Peter began to speak to them: ‘I truly understand that God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.’

Acts 10: 34 - 43

**GOSPEL**

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, ‘They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him.’ Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went towards the tomb. The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, and the cloth that had been on Jesus’ head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. Then the disciples returned to their homes. But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. They said to her, ‘Woman, why are you weeping?’ She said to them, ‘They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him.’ When she had said this, she turned round and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to her, ‘Woman, why are you weeping? For whom are you looking?’ Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, ‘Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away.’ Jesus said to her, ‘Mary!’ She turned and said to him in Hebrew, ‘Rabbouni!’ (which means Teacher). Jesus said to her, ‘Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, “I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.”’ Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, ‘I have seen the Lord’; and she told them that he had said these things to her.

John 20: 1 - 18

# Royston Parish Church

Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024 EASTER DAY

**The Living God’s Love Prayer**

**Living God, draw us deeper into your love; Jesus our Lord,  
send us to care and serve;**

**Holy Spirit, make us heralds of good news.**

**Stir us, strengthen us, teach and inspire us**

**To live your love with generosity and joy, Imagination and courage;  
for the sake of your world and in the name of Jesus, Amen.**

If you would like regular copies of the Notice Sheet emailed to you please  
email Rob Fox on: [Robert.fox@virgin.net](mailto:Robert.fox@virgin.net)

		<b>Please note: Clocks have moved forward by one hour</b>
Easter Day 31	6.30 am	Sunrise Service starting in Priory Gardens followed by bacon butties in church
	9 am	BCP Holy Communion Service
	10.30 am	Family Communion Service followed by an Easter Egg hunt
Tues 2 Apr	6.15 pm – 8.30 pm	Royston Town Band Rehearsal
Wed 3	9.30 – 10 am	Celtic Prayer in Lady Chapel
	11 am	Said Eucharist followed by refreshments
	7 pm – 8 pm	Choir Practice
	7.30 pm	Mens Group meeting in Wetherspoons
Thur 4	2.30 pm	Ladies Group meeting in Church
Sat 6	10 am – 11.30 am	Church Café
	12.30 pm – 2 pm	Spring Concert in Church see notices for details
Sun 7	9 am	Said Communion Service
	10.30 am	Sung Communion Service with Church Choir, Children’s Church, followed by refreshments.
Wed 10	11 am	Said Eucharist followed by refreshments
	7 pm	Fabric Development Committee meeting in Church
Sat 13	10 am – 11.30 am	Church Café
	12 noon	Royston Choral Society Set up for Evening Concert
	7.30 pm	Royston Choral Society Concert. Verdi Requiem. See poster at back of church for more details

**DATES FOR THE DIARY:**

26th April 7pm Royston Town Band spring concert  
4th & 6th May - Book Fayre

**We pray for all Christians worldwide:**

For all Christians in The Balkans  
For all who are worship at Melbourn Baptist Church: In vacancy  
For the work of our mission partners: Leprosy Mission

**We pray for the community of Royston:**

For our local health centres  
For all our local Market Stall Holders

**We pray for our world and ECO projects:**

Celebrations of new life at Easter

**We pray for the sick and suffering:**

Glen Thomas	Neal	Baby Forest Pike
Sarah Murphy	Paul & Pat Tidey	Peter Coates
Baby Eden	Phoebe Strom	Jan McElney
Richard Moss	Ann Milton	Peter Nightingale
Jamie Covington	Lee Cockerill	Roy Rodway
Jackson Herbert	Helen Yerrill	Betty Gladstone
Jean Coslett	Margaret & John Coates	Val Brown
Bishop Alan	Kathy George	

**We pray for those who have died in the faith of Christ:**

**Deceased** **Bereaved**

**We pray for those whose anniversaries fall at this time:**

1 April Pearl Horsman  
6 Freda Doughton, Hilda Pearce

**NOTICES**

**EASYFUNDRAISING:** Easyfundraising uses 7,000 brands including names such as John Lewis, M&S, Viking, Expedia, Amazon, EBay, Compare the Market house insurance, all supermarkets, holiday operators, Insurance providers and a wide range of smaller online shops. Go to [www.easyfundraising.org.uk](http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk)  
Click support this cause and create an account.

**NEXT JULIAN PRAYER** meeting will be Thursday 25th April at 7.30pm at 11 Middle Drift.

**BETH MOORLEY MESSAGE:** On 21st April I am running the London Marathon! I have been given the opportunity to do so and at the same time support a fantastic charity, Keech Hospice Care. As many of you know I am one of the Community Nurses on the Children's Team and everyday I meet amazing and inspiring children, young people and their families. I know what a difference the charity is able to make in their lives, showing compassion, support and care in some of the most difficult circumstances. Please sponsor me, if you are able, and share my page far and wide! Every penny will make a difference. Thank you

<https://2024tcls londonmarathon.enthuse.com/pf/beth-moorley>

**EASTER FLOWERS:-** Thank you to all those who have made a donation towards the Easter Flowers. Your generosity has helped make our Church look beautiful and it is very much appreciated. After Easter I will be stepping down from leading the flower arrangers team and in future the group will be organised by a committee of three. I know the congregation will continue to support the group as has been the case in previous years. I have enjoyed being part of the team for over 20 years and would encourage anyone who might be interested in flower arranging to contact the committee via the Church office. Rosemary Dowling

**HASSOCKS** We are selling spare hassocks (kneelers) for £20 each, all proceeds going to church funds. Limited number available.  
Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> April, 12:30pm in our church.

A programme of **Music and Words to Welcome Spring**, featuring Robin Pegna - Baritone, Ros Holbrow - Clarinet, and John Witchell - piano. Free entry. There will be a retiring collection in aid of church funds. Refreshments available. All welcome.

**FIRST COMMUNION:** If you have a young person who would like to start receiving communion, or someone who has been receiving communion but has not received any preparation and would like to, then please see Seteven by the 18<sup>th</sup> March.

**SPONSORED SWIM FOR WATERWAYS CHAPLAINCY :** Emma Sivyer is raising funds to enable the work of Waterways Chaplains as they support those who live or spend time on Britain's waterways many of whom live in poverty and suffer with their physical and mental health. Over the next 12 weeks she is going to swim 1780 lengths of Royston pool which is the length of our nearest navigable inland waterway, The Lee and Stort. She'd be really grateful if you'd like to sponsor her. Please use her Just Giving link here: <https://www.justgiving.com/page/emma-sivyer-waterways-swim> or if you prefer you can donate in cash by giving it to her and she will pay it in.