



Easter Sunday 31st March 2024, 10am

Welcome to St Laurence's
as we celebrate Jesus' rising from the dead!

*A particular welcome to all visitors here.
Coffee and sparkling wine will be served in the hall after
the service – do join us.*

At the entry of the choir please stand as the choir sing the introit:

This joyful Eastertide, away with sin and sorrow!
My Love, the crucified, hath sprung to life this morrow.
Had Christ, that once was slain, ne'er burst his three-day prison,
Our faith had been in vain—but now is Christ arisen!

As choir and clergy process into church, all sing the first hymn:

Jesus Christ is risen to-day, Alleluia
our triumphant holy day, Alleluia
who did once, upon the cross, Alleluia
suffer to redeem our loss. Alleluia,
Hymns of praise then let us sing, Alleluia
unto Christ, our heavenly King, Alleluia
who endured the Cross and grave, Alleluia
sinners to redeem and save. Alleluia,
But the pains that he endured, Alleluia
our salvation have procured; Alleluia
now above the sky he's King, Alleluia
where the angels ever sing: Alleluia,

I have risen: I am with you once more; you placed your hand on me to keep me safe. How great is the depth of your wisdom, alleluia!

In the name of the Father ☩ and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit

The Lord be with you
and also with you

Alleluia! Christ is risen!
He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

The priest welcomes everyone, and then invites us to call to mind our sins.

Lord, have mercy
Christ, have mercy
Lord, have mercy

And so, with our sins forgiven, we sing the song of rejoicing of the angels themselves:

Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.

For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Remain standing for the opening prayer

God our Father,
by raising Christ your Son
you conquered the power of death
and opened for us the way to eternal life.
Let our celebration today
raise us up and renew our lives
by the Spirit that is within us. We ask this...
Amen.

Please sit for the readings

First reading (Acts 10:34, 37-43)

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

Peter addressed Cornelius and his household: “You must have heard about the recent happenings in Judaea; about Jesus of Nazareth and how he began in Galilee, after John had been preaching baptism. God had anointed him with the Holy Spirit and with power, and because God was with him, Jesus went about doing good and curing all who had fallen into the power of the devil. Now I, and those with me, can witness to everything he did throughout the countryside of Judaea and in Jerusalem itself: and also to the fact that they killed him by hanging him on a tree, yet three days afterwards God raised him to life and allowed him to be seen, not by the whole people but only by certain witnesses God had chosen beforehand. Now we are those witnesses — we have eaten and drunk with him after his resurrection from the dead — and he has ordered us to proclaim this to his people and to tell them that God has appointed him to judge everyone, alive or dead. It is to him that all the prophets bear this witness: that all who believe in Jesus will have their sins forgiven through his name”.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.



Please remain seated to sing Psalm 118, a song of rejoicing..

Psalm 118: CONFITEMINI DOMINO



GIVE thanks unto the Lord, for | he is | gracious:
because his | mercy . en|dureth . for | ever.

Let Israel now confess that | he is | gracious:
and his | mercy . en|dureth . for | ever.

The right hand of the Lord hath the pre-|emi|nence:
the right hand of the Lord bringeth | mighty |
things to | pass.

I shall not | die, but | live:
and de|clare the | works of . the | Lord.

The same stone which the | builders . re|fused:
is become the | head-stone | in the | corner.

This is the | Lord's | doing:
and it is | marvellous | in our | eyes.

Second reading (1 Corinthians 5: 6–8)

*A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the
Corinthians*

You must know how even a small amount of yeast is enough to leaven all the dough, so get rid of all the old yeast, and make yourselves into a completely new batch of bread, unleavened as you are meant to be. Christ, our passover, has been sacrificed; let us celebrate the feast by getting rid of all the old yeast of evil and wickedness, having only the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please stand to sing the hymn before the
Gospel:

GOOD Christians all, rejoice and sing!
Now is the triumph of our King:
To all the world glad news we bring:
Alleluya!

The Lord of Life is risen for ay:
bring flowers of song to strew his way;
let all mankind rejoice and say:
Alleluya.

Praise we in songs of victory
that Love, that Life, which cannot die,
and sing with hearts uplifted high:
Alleluya.

Thy name we bless, O risen Lord,
and sing to-day with one accord
the life laid down, the life restored:
Alleluya.

C A Alington (1872-1955)

Please remain standing for the acclamation & Gospel (John 20:1-9)

Alleluia, alleluia!

Christ, our passover, has been sacrificed: let us celebrate the feast then, in the Lord.

Alleluia!

The Lord be with you:
and also with you

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John
Glory to you, O Lord

It was very early on the first day of the week and still dark, when Mary of Magdala came to the tomb. She saw that the stone had been moved away from the tomb and came running to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one Jesus loved. "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb," she said, "and we don't know where they have put him".

So Peter set out with the other disciple to go to the tomb. They ran together, but the other disciple, running faster than Peter, reached the tomb first; he bent down and saw the linen cloths lying on the ground, but did not go in. Simon Peter, who was following, now came up, went right into the tomb, saw the linen cloths on the ground, and also the cloth that had been over his head; this was not with the linen cloths but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple who had reached the tomb first also went in; he saw and he believed. Till this moment they had failed to understand the teaching of scripture, that he must rise from the dead.

This is the Gospel of the Lord
Praise to you, O Christ.

After the Gospel please sit for the sermon.

Profession of Faith & Renewal of Baptismal Vows

The president addresses the congregation

Dear friends,

through the paschal mystery

we have been buried with Christ in baptism,

so that we may rise with him to a new life.

Now that we have completed our Lenten observance,

let us renew the promises we made in baptism, when

we rejected Satan and his works,

and promised to serve God faithfully

in his holy catholic church.

Do you reject Satan?

I do

And all his works?

I do

And all his empty promises?

I do

Do you believe and trust in God the Father?

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator
of heaven and earth**

Do you believe and trust in his Son Jesus Christ?

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead

Do you believe and trust in the Holy Spirit?

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen

God, the all-powerful Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, has given us a new birth by water and the Holy Spirit and forgiven all our sins.

May he also keep us faithful to our Lord Jesus Christ for ever and ever. Amen.

THE PRAYERS

Please sit or kneel

THE PEACE

The priest invites the congregation to share the peace

The risen Christ came and stood among his disciples and said 'Peace be with you'. Then were they glad when they saw the Lord.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

All exchange an appropriate sign of peace.

Gifts of bread and wine are brought up to the altar. A collection is taken for the life and work of this church. If you already give to the church through your bank or on-line, as most of the congregation do, or have no cash on you, just pass the alms plate along as it comes past. If you'd like to give by card, please ask one of the churchwardens at the end of the service.

We stand to sing the offertory hymn

Lord, enthroned in heavenly splendour,
first-begotten from the dead,
thou alone, our strong defender,
lifest up thy people's head.

Alleluia,

Jesu, true and living bread.

Here our humblest homage pay we,
here in loving reverence bow;
here for faith's discernment pray we,
lest we fail to know thee now.

Alleluia,

thou art here, we ask not how.

Though the lowliest form doth veil thee
as of old in Bethlehem,
here as there thine angels hail thee,
Branch and Flower of Jesse's Stem.

Alleluia,

we in worship join with them.

Paschal Lamb, thine offering, finished
once for all when thou wast slain,
in its fulness undiminished
shall for evermore remain,
Alleluia,
cleansing souls from every stain.

Life-imparting heavenly Manna,
stricken Rock with streaming side,
heaven and earth with loud hosanna
worship thee, the Lamb who died,
Alleluia,
risen, ascended, glorified.

G H Bourne

THE PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

Exultant with paschal gladness, O Lord,
we offer the sacrifice by which
your Church is wondrously reborn and nourished.
Through Christ our Lord.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you
and also with you

Lift up your hearts
We lift them to the Lord

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God
It is right to give thanks and praise

Father, we give you thanks and praise
through your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, your living
Word, through whom you have created all things;

Who was sent by you, in your great goodness, to be
our Saviour;

by the power of the Holy Spirit he took flesh
and, as your Son, born of the blessed Virgin,
lived on earth and went about among us.

He opened wide his arms for us on the cross;
he put an end to death by dying for us
and revealed the resurrection by rising to new life;
so he fulfilled your will and won for you a holy people.

And now we give you thanks,
because you raised him gloriously from the dead.
For he is the true Paschal lamb who was offered for us,
and has taken away the sin of the world.
By his death he has destroyed death, and by his rising
to life again he has restored to us everlasting life.

Therefore with angels and archangels,
and with all the company of heaven,
we proclaim your great and glorious name,
for ever praising you and saying: (*choir*)

Sanctus, sanctus, sanctus,
Dominus Deus, Deus Sabaoth,
Pleni sunt coeli et terra gloria tua
Hosanna in excelsis. (Mozart, *Spatzenmesse*)

*(Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might; heaven
and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.)*

Lord, you are holy indeed, the source of all holiness;
grant that, by the power of your Holy Spirit,
and according to your holy will,
these your gifts of bread and wine
may be to us the body and blood
of our Lord Jesus Christ;

who in the same night that he was betrayed,
took bread and gave you thanks;
he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying,
*Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.*

In the same way, after supper
he took the cup and gave you thanks;
he gave it to them saying,
*Drink this all of you;
this is my blood of the new covenant,
which is shed for you and for many
for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this, as often as you drink it,
in remembrance of me.*

Great is the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died,
Christ is risen,
Christ will come again.**

And so, Father, calling to mind his death on the cross,
his perfect sacrifice made once for the sins of the
whole world,
rejoicing in his mighty resurrection and glorious
ascension,
and looking for his coming in glory,
we celebrate this memorial of our redemption.

We thank you for counting us worthy
to stand in your presence and serve you;
we bring before you this bread and this cup.
We pray you to accept this, our duty and service,
a spiritual sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving.

Send the Holy Spirit on your people
and gather into one in your kingdom
all who share this one bread and one cup,
so that we, in the company of Laurence
and of all the saints, may praise and glorify you for
ever, through him from whom all good things come,
Jesus Christ our Lord;

by whom and with whom and in whom,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory be yours, almighty Father,
for ever and ever. Amen.

**Remaining standing, we say together the
Lord's prayer**

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray:
**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come;
thy will be done;
on earth as it is in heaven.**

Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
the power and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.

Please kneel

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.
Though we are many, we are one body,
because we all share in one bread.

While bread is broken, the choir sing:

O Lamb of God
that takest away the sins of the world
have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God,
that takest away the sins of the world,
have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God,
that takest away the sins of the world,
grant us thy peace..

The gifts of God for the people of God

Jesus Christ is Holy

Jesus Christ is Lord

to the glory of God the Father. Amen

The priest will say to all: The body of Christ
and everyone who intends to receive
communion replies together: Amen.

All who are prepared and are accustomed
to receiving holy communion are invited to
join with us this morning. Please follow the
guidance of the churchwardens, who will invite
you to the front of the church to receive if
you wish.

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Please receive the host standing. Reception of
the Chalice is optional. If you wish to receive
the Blood of Christ, please drink directly from
the Cup. If you choose not receive the chalice,
please pause to acknowledge the Blood of
Christ (e.g. by a slight bow).

During communion we sing two communion
hymns and then the choir will sing an anthem.

COMMUNION HYMNS

WALKING in a garden

At the close of day,

Adam tried to hide him

When he heard God say:

‘Why are you so frightened,

Why are you afraid?

You have brought the winter in,

Made the flowers fade.’

Walking in a garden
Where the Lord had gone,
Three of the disciples,
Peter, James and John;
They were very weary,
Could not keep awake,
While the Lord was kneeling there,
Praying for their sake.

Walking in a garden
At the break of day,
Mary asked the gardener
Where the body lay;
But he turned towards her,
Smiled at her and said:
'Mary, spring is here to stay,
Only death is dead'.



NOW the green blade riseth from the buried grain,
Wheat that in dark earth many days has lain;
Love lives again that with the dead has been:

*Love is come again,
Like wheat that springeth green.*

In the grave they laid him, Love whom men had slain,
Thinking that never he would wake again,
Laid in the earth like grain that sleeps unseen:

Forth he came at Easter, like the risen grain,
He that for three days in the grave had lain,
Quick from the dead my risen Lord is seen

When our hearts are wintry, grieving or in pain,
Thy touch can call us back to life again,
Fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been:



ANTHEM (*congregation welcome to join in!*)

The heavens are telling the glory of God
the wonder of his work displays the firmament.

Today that is coming speaks it the day
the night that is gone to following night.

In all the lands resounds the word
never unperceived, ever understood.

The heavens are telling the glory of God
the wonder of his work displays the firmament.

– Josef Haydn



AFTER COMMUNION

*Christ has become our paschal sacrifice; let us feast with
the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth, alleluia.*

Father of love,
watch over your Church
and bring us to the glory of the resurrection
promised by this Easter sacrament.

We ask this in the name of Jesus the Lord. Amen.

THE NOTICES

Please sit for the notices – and Easter eggs.

After the giving of Easter eggs, the servers and clergy move to the Easter garden:

Please stand for the blessing of the Easter garden (any children who cannot see are welcome to come to the front).

At the end the priest blesses and dismisses us:

Go in the peace of Christ, alleluia, alle—luia!

Thanks be to God, alleluia, alle—luia!

FINAL HYMN

THINE be the glory, risen, conquering Son,
Endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won;
Angels in bright raiment rolled the stone away,
Kept the folded grave-clothes where thy body lay.

*Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son,
Endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won*

Lo, Jesus meets us, risen from the tomb;
Lovingly he greets us, scatters fear and gloom;
Let the Church with gladness hymns of triumph sing,
For her Lord now liveth, death hath lost its sting:

*Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son,
Endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won.*



No more we doubt thee, glorious Prince of Life:
Life is nought without thee: aid us in our strife,
Make us more than conquerors through thy
deathless love;

Bring us safe through Jordan to thy home above

*Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son,
Endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won.*

ORGAN VOLUNTARY

Please remain in your seat until the organist has finished playing the voluntary.

After the service, please do go through to the Church Hall for refreshments.

Happy Easter!!

NOTICES – EASTER DAY 2024

Welcome to St Laurence's this Easter morning! Tea, coffee and sparkling wine will be served in the church hall.

A special welcome today to any visitors or anyone here for the first time. If this is your first visit to St Laurence's, do make yourself known to one of the clergy.

Thank you to everybody who has worked to make the church look so beautiful this morning. Especial thanks to Sybil and the flower team, to Kofi and the sacristy team and to Jocelyn and the choir for all their hard work in preparing church and music for our Holy Week and Easter.

Annual Meeting of Parishioners April 14th

The Annual Meeting will take place in two weeks' time, after mass, in the Church Hall. If you would like to stand for the Church Council, or any of the other elected positions, the churchwardens will have forms this morning.

Parish lunch

After the annual meeting, there will be a parish lunch in the main church hall. All are very welcome to stay, as we celebrate the glorious season of Eastertide together in traditional St Laurence style!

Electoral roll

If you come to St Laurence's once a month, and you are not already on the electoral roll (which enables you to vote at the annual meeting on April 14th), you should have a form waiting for you to complete at the back of church. If not, please ask one of the Churchwardens for a form. It's important for all regular adult members of the congregation to be on the roll.

This week

Wednesday: mass at 10.30am

Thursday: mass at 9.45am

This Friday – cost of living eco-workshop

On Friday at 10am, Donnachadh McCarthy will be leading a free workshop in the Jubilee Room designed to help you to economise and save the planet at the same time! Suitable for all ages – no need to book, just turn up. Refreshments provided.



For your prayers

our young people preparing to receive holy communion for the first time:

Vino, David, Leia, Neo, Prosper, Giovanni and Chloe

those baptised and/or confirmed yesterday evening:

Valeria, Vanessa, Miles, Simone, Calum, Maureen, Dorna, Hilma, Dona

among the sick: Myrna Perkins, Beverley & John Lashley,

Taletta Haye, Minette Stevens, Sarah Cole, Bridgit Sam-

Bailey, Marcia Sanderson, Ottis Edwards, Elaine Stanislaus,

Marcia Wilson, Robert Green, Roy Brown, Kayla Brown,

Ros Ovbiovbio, Marva Mayne, Natasha Joseph, Degus

Vassell, Anita Greenidge, Thelma Corbin, Beverley Willacy,

Kevin Counihan, Charles Gasa, Josette Owens, Everton

White, Elaine Thompson-Dixon, Everton Bend, Annette

Cox-Simmons, Selena Goodyear, Ron & Kay Lanston, Esme

Francis, Girda Carty, Cheyne Reid, Daphne Moore, Leon

Haynes, Elizabeth Halfpenny, Omata Alli, Eugenie Gregory,

Dolphus Perkins, Paul and Maureen Gettens, Capt Andrew

Stone, Diane Coleman, David Staples

recently departed: Ernie Brown

anniversaries: 31st Clementine Rose Aves; 1st: Avril

Sandiford; 2nd 'Mick' Pinder (priest), Winston Archibald; 3rd

John Faulkner; 4th Martin Luther King; Veronica Torkula; 5th

Derek Moody (priest); 6th Eileen Souter;



Today's sidespersons team:

Victor Obasogie, Roy Brown, Elaine Dixon, Bylinda Lundie

Chalice rota: Matthew, Alice

Contact us

Parish Clergy: Fr Charles: 020 8698 2871,

Parish Office (Richard Swann): 020 8698 9706 e: info@

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