



ST LAURENCE CHURCH CATFORD

The Second Sunday of Easter

7th April 2024 , 10am



Welcome to St Laurence's this morning. In Today's Gospel: a doubtful Thomas meets Jesus and believes!

At the entry of clergy and servers, please stand.

Ye choirs of new Jerusalem
your sweetest notes employ,
the paschal victory to hymn
in strains of holy joy.

For Judah's Lion bursts his chains,
crushing the serpent's head;
and cries aloud through death's domains
to wake the imprisoned dead.

Devouring depths of hell their prey
at his command restore;
his ransomed hosts pursue their way
where Jesus goes before.

Triumphant in his glory now
to him all power is given;
to him in one communion bow
all saints in earth and heaven.

While we his soldiers praise our King,
his mercy we implore,
within his palace bright to bring
and keep us evermore.

All glory to the Father be,
all glory to the Son,
all glory, Holy Ghost, to thee,
while endless ages run.
Alleluia. Amen.

St Fulbert of Chartres (d 1028)

H J Gauntlett (1805-76)

translated by R Campbell (1814-68)

Entrance antiphon

*Like newborn infants, you must long for the pure,
spiritual milk, that in him you may grow to salvation
Alleluia.*

In the name of the ✙ Father, and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit:

ALL: Amen

Alleluia, Christ is risen

He is risen indeed, Alleluia!

The priest briefly welcomes everyone to St Laurence's, and introduces the theme of the mass. We are then invited to call to mind whatever we have done wrong in the sight of God. The priest will sprinkle us with water from the font to remind us that it is through our baptism into Jesus's death and resurrection that our sins are forgiven. As we are sprinkled, we sing:

I saw water flowing from the right side of the temple, alleluia! It brought God's life and his salvation. And the people sang in joyful praise:
Alleluia, Alleluia! (Ezekiel 47:1)

Almighty God,
have mercy upon you, forgive you your sins
and bring you to eternal life. Amen.

Our sins forgiven, we sing the song of the angels:

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.

The prayer of the day

God of everlasting mercy,
who, in the very recurrence of the paschal feast
kindle the faith of the people you have made your own,
increase, we pray, the grace you have bestowed,
that all may grasp and rightly understand
in what font they have been washed,
by whose Spirit they have been reborn
by whose Blood they have been redeemed.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy
Spirit, one God for ever and ever. Amen.

Then everyone sits to listen to the Old and New Testament readings (the readings are printed out in the Centrefold of this booklet); afterwards, we all sing the gradual hymn together.

Love's redeeming work is done;
fought the fight, the battle won;
lo, our Sun's eclipse is o'er,
lo, he sets in blood no more

Vain the stone, the watch, the seal;
Christ has burst the gates of hell;
death in vain forbids his rise;
Christ has opened Paradise.

Lives again our glorious King;
where, O death, is now thy sting?
Dying once, he all doth save;
where thy victory, O grave?

Soar we now where Christ has led,
following our exalted Head;
made like him, like him we rise;
ours the cross, the grave, the skies.

Hail the Lord of earth and heaven!
praise to thee by both be given:
thee we greet triumphant now;
hail, the Resurrection thou!

Charles Wesley

**Remain standing for the Gospel acclamation
and the Gospel (John 20:19-31)**

Alleluia, alleluia

Jesus said "You believe because you can see me.
Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe."

Alleluia, 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.

At the end:

This is the Gospel of the Lord:

Praise to you O Christ.

**After the Gospel, please be seated for the
sermon.**

We stand for the creed

We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God, begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
was incarnate from the Holy Spirit
and the Virgin Mary
and was made man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory
to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son
is worshipped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism
for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

We all sit or kneel for the prayers.

Lord, in your mercy
hear our prayer.

Please stand for the peace

The peace of the Lord be always with you
and also with you.

**You are welcome to smile at or wave or bow to
your neighbour.**

The offertory

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 ask one of the churchwardens at the end of the service.

We stand to sing the offertory hymn

At the Lamb's high feast we sing
praise to our victorious King,
who hath washed us in the tide
flowing from his piercèd side;
praise we him, whose love divine
gives his sacred blood for wine,
gives his body for the feast,
Love the victim, Love the priest.

Where the Paschal blood is poured,
Death's dark angel sheathes his sword;
Israel's hosts triumphant go
through the wave that drowns the foe.
Christ, the Lamb whose blood was shed,
Paschal victim, Paschal bread!
with sincerity and love
eat we Manna from above.

Mighty victim from on high,
powers of hell beneath thee lie;
Death is broken in the fight,
thou hast brought us life and light.
Now thy banner thou dost wave,
conquering Satan and the grave.
See the prince of darkness quelled;
Heaven's bright gates are open held.

Paschal triumph, Paschal joy,
only sin can this destroy;
from sin's death do thou set free
souls re-born, dear Lord, in thee.
Hymns of glory, songs of praise,
Father, unto thee we raise.
Risen Lord, all praise to thee,
ever with the Spirit be.

Latin, translated by R Campbell (1814-68)

The prayer over the gifts

Accept, O Lord, we pray,
the oblations of your people
and of those you have brought to new birth,
that, renewed by confession of your name and by Baptism
they may attain unending happiness
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

**The priest invites the people to join in the
eucharistic celebration, the Great Thanksgiving**

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;
as your Son, born of the blessed Virgin,
he 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 in his victory over the grave a new age has
dawned,
the long reign of sin is ended,
a broken world is being renewed
and humanity is once again made whole.

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:

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts
Heaven and earth are full of thy glory;
Glory be to thee O Lord most high.**

**Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord;
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 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.

As we offer you this our sacrifice of praise & thanksgiving,
we bring before you this bread and this cup
and we thank you for counting us worthy
to stand in your presence and serve you.

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 all the saints,
may praise and glorify you for ever,
through 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 sing together the
Lord's prayer:**

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.**

Give us today our daily bread.

**Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.**

**Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and for ever.**

Amen.

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.

Please kneel.

While the bread is broken, we sing:

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,
grant us peace.

Behold the Lamb of God

who takes away the sins of the world.

Blessed are those who are called to his supper.

Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,
but only say the word and I shall be healed.

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.

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).

Communion hymns

Brother, sister, let me serve you,
Let me be as Christ to you;
Pray that I may have the grace
To let you be my servant, too.

We are pilgrims on a journey,
We are travellers on the road;
We are here to help each other
Walk the mile and bear the load.

I will hold the Christ-light for you
In the night-time of your fear;
I will hold my hand out to you,
Speak the peace you long to hear.

I will weep when you are weeping;
When you laugh I'll laugh with you.
I will share your joy and sorrow
'till we've seen this journey through.

When we sing to God in heaven
We shall find such harmony,
Born of all we've known together
Of Christ's love and agony.

Brother, sister, let me serve you,
Let me be as Christ to you;
Pray that I may have the grace
To let you be my servant, too.

Richard Gilliard



LORD Jesus Christ,
you have come to us,
You are one with us,
Mary's Son;
Cleansing our souls from all their sin,
Pouring your love and goodness in;
Jesus, our love for you we sing,
Living Lord.

Lord Jesus Christ,
Now and every day
Teach us how to pray,
Son of God.
You have commanded us to do
This in remembrance, Lord of you:
Into our lives your power breaks through,
Living Lord.

Lord Jesus Christ,
You have come to us,
Born as one of us,
Mary's son;
Led out to die on Calvary,
Risen from death to set us free,
Living Lord Jesus, help us see
You are Lord.

Lord Jesus Christ,
I would come to you,
Live my life for you,
Son of God.
All your commands I know are true,
Your many gifts will make me new,
Into my life your power breaks through,
Living Lord.

Communion Antiphon

*Bring your hand and feel the place of the nails,
and do not be unbelieving but believing, alleluia.*

Prayer after Communion

Grant, we pray, almighty God,
that our reception of this Paschal sacrament
may have a continuing effect
in our minds and hearts.
Through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

**After this prayer, please be seated for the
Church notices.**

**Please stand for God's blessing and remain
standing for the final hymn.**

**Go in the peace of Christ:
Thanks be to God.**

**The strife is o'er, the battle done;
now is the Victor's triumph won;
O let the song of praise be sung:
Alleluya!**

**Death's mightiest powers have done their
worst,
and Jesus hath his foes dispersed;
let shouts of praise and joy outburst:
Alleluia!**

On the third morn he rose again
glorious in majesty to reign;
O let us swell the joyful strain:
Alleluia!

He brake the age-bound chains of hell:
The bars from heavn's high portals fell;
Let hymns of praise his triumph tell.
Alleluia!

Lord, by the stripes which wounded thee
from death's dread sting thy servants free,
that we may live, and sing to thee
Alleluia!

*Latin, 17th century
translated by F Pott (1832-1909)*

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

After the service, you are warmly invited to go
through to the Church Hall to join us for tea
and coffee.

Church Notices

Masses this week

Wednesday: Mass 10am with exposition of the sacrament
from 10am

Thursday: mass at 9.45am followed by 'Knit and Natter'
in the choir vestry from 10.30am

Other events

Monday: Centre Management committee meet, 10.30am,
choir vestry

Tuesday: Ernie Brown's funeral mass will be held in
church at 11.30am. Ernie's body will be received in
church the previous evening at 4.45pm, and he will spend
Monday night in the Lady Chapel.

Next Sunday – parish lunch and APCM

Next Sunday we have our annual meeting of parishioners,
where we will elect churchwardens and church council
for the coming year. It will be followed by our traditional
Eastertide parish lunch to which everyone is invited. Do
come! There will be plenty to eat and drink.

If you wish to vote at the annual meeting, you *must* be
on the church electoral roll. This is free and entirely
without obligation. All regular parishioners should
join. Forms available at the back of church or from the
churchwardens today.

If you would like to stand for election to the Church
Council, please ask the churchwardens for a nomination
form, and ask a couple of friends to propose you.

Annual report booklets will be available this morning. Do
take one today (but please bring it with you next Sunday!)

Richard Sutton

Members of the congregation may remember Richard
Suton, who was PCC treasurer 1993–2005. Richard died
just before Palm Sunday, rejoining his beloved Doreen.
His funeral will be on April 25th at St Saviour's Church,
Brockley Rise, at 2.30pm.

The Manna Society

If you enjoyed Bandi Mbubi's sermon on the first Sunday in Lent, you can find much of it reprinted in the Manna Society Spring newsletter (copy at the back of church).

Concerts coming up

Jocelyn Freeman's Songeasel will be hosting a concert by Roderick Williams this Thursday, April 11th, at St George the Martyr Church, Borough High Street.

The next event at St Laurence's will be a really special one, organised just for us, on April 21st after mass. Many people feel they might enjoy listening to singing, but don't know where to start. We have invited **Emily Kilpatrick**, a well-known lecturer, teacher and performer, to give us a way into listening to classical singing – especially focussing on the French composer, Gabriel Fauré (1845–1924), about whom she has written a book, on his 100th anniversary. No previous knowledge required. Come and experience a whole new world of music you may not know much about, and broaden your horizons! This is great music, well worth discovering.

Reading lessons in church

If you would like to read in church, please have a word with Corinne Browne-Marke, or even better, join the reading-lessons-in-church whatsapp group.

Giving to the Church

To give to St Laurence's, please scan this QR code here, or ask the churchwardens for the credit card machine.



For your prayers

among the sick: Myrna Perkins, Beverley & John Lashley, Taleta 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, Ernie Brown, 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

recently departed: Keretta Hewitt, Ernie Brown

anniversaries: 7th René Tatham; 9th William Tatham, David Bailey; 10th Linda Reid; 11th Vera Mynett, Beverley Martin; 12th Matthew Johnson, Gus Taylor, Sheila O'Mallo;

Today's sidespersons team: Florence Browne-Marke, Beverley Chin, Jeni Griffith, Lorna Aitkin

Chalice rota: Gabriel, Ijeoma

Contact us

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