

Sunday 30 April 2023
EASTER 4

Year A 23/17

ST JAMES

Islington N1 8PH

Collect: Risen Christ, faithful shepherd of your Father's sheep: teach us to hear your voice and to follow your commands, that all your people may be gathered into one flock, to the glory of God the Father. Amen.



Welcomer	Isabel Nisbet
Readers	Anneke Pol and John Roden
Interceder	Lucy Haire
E Min	Hilary Roden
Coffee	Lucy Haire
Music:	
Entry	AM620 Lord Jesus when you
Gradual	AM799 The Lord's my shepherd
Offertory	AM499 Lord, you gave
P-Comm	AM456 Now let us from
Final	CAHON8 Alleluia, alleluia
Mass	Burley Mass, Simon Lole

VISIT BY BISHOP JOANNE: SUNDAY MAY 21st

We very much look forward to the first visit of our new bishop to St James' and when she is here she will also confirm our eight confirmation candidates. On this 'Good Shepherd' Sunday it is good to think a little about our bishops! What do they do? What do they carry? And how does their role fit into *our* mission for Jesus in our parish? The crozier, pastoral staff or crook that a bishop carries (see an example, left) reminds us that their principle task is to care for the sheep - all of us! Indeed Pope Francis said that bishops should 'smell of the sheep', that they should be deeply aware of who and what we are. Of course there are lots of different ways of doing that but we hope that bishops set an example of deep care so that we do the same wherever we find ourselves...

And I want to say a personal 'thank you' for all your wonderful caring for me while I sort out my eyes. Calls, texts, cards, offers of help, flowers and even a meal have been part of that. I cannot tell you how much that has

been appreciated and has helped my recovery hugely. You have been wonderfully and pastorally concerned and that is truly 'like Jesus' - even if you don't carry a big stick around with you!

Please do mark the date of Bishop Joanne's visit and the Confirmations (10am on May 21st) and let's go on caring for one another as you are already doing.

CONFIRMATION PREPARATION On Monday a 'catch up session' for those who missed the excellent 'Big Group' session last Tuesday. This coming Tuesday Group B looks together at the Easter story. And don't forget those write-ups!

WELCOME to everyone in Church today, especially those visiting for the first time.

- Please ask the nearest person to you in the pews if there is anything you need. There is a carpeted area in the south aisle for our smallest children. A full service booklet is available and the T-loop system works well.
- A collection of money is taken during Mass. We are very grateful for your kind support.
- At the time of communion, please feel free to come forward to the front of Church - either to receive communion or a blessing. Jesus invites everyone, you too!
- Finally, do stay for a drink after Mass if you can and say hello before you leave. If you would like to keep in touch, please fill in a white Contact Card and we'll respond asap.

St James' Islington: discovering how to live like Jesus in the 21st century

AGM I was roundly told off by the big Sikh doctor at Moorfields on Wednesday for being too optimistic about my recovery time! Healing is going well but it really will take longer than a week or two, he said. So thanks again to Fr Stephen and Fr Jim for celebrating the Masses again today. All being well I will be back on duty next week-end, not least for the opening of the new organ at 5pm on May 7th!

Our AGM is therefore postponed to 11.15am on Sunday May 14th. Thank you to those who have been newly nominated to stand for PCC membership: it would also be good to have some from the younger generation - and there is still time to get that organised.

OPENING OF THE ORGAN: 5pm MAY 7th Everything will be ready for the dedication of the new organ next Sunday, thanks to some amazing hard work by lots of people. No tickets are required but please do come and celebrate this huge achievement and help us to welcome visitors from far and wide who are keen to hear the new instrument.

ST JAMES' GARDENS I was very disappointed to hear that there isn't really enough money to do very much for the gardens despite all the promises over the years. Trying to get more hard standing and more 'visibility' is still the priority. I have asked for some changes to the plan and we will see what happens.

THIS WEEK

Sun	EASTER 4 8am Mass (Fr Stephen). 10am PARISH MASS and SUNDAY SCHOOL (Fr Jim).
Mon	LAST WEEK OF CHURCH CLOSURE! 7pm Lucy piano trio rehearsal. 7.30pm Confirmation 'catch-up' session'.
Tues	No 8.30am Morning Prayer. No 9am Mass. 7.30pm Confirmation Group B: The Easter story. Vicarage
Wed	No 10am Mass. 2pm Carpet Cleaning.
Thurs	11-1pm Charlie Andrews Organ rehearsal (also Friday and Saturday). 6pm Evening Prayer. 6.15pm Office Hour.
Sun 7	EASTER 5 8am Mass. 10am PARISH MASS and SUNDAY SCHOOL. 5pm CHORAL EVENSONG AND ORGAN RECITAL.

Calendar and Daily prayer themes

PACK UP for the street community always very grateful for these items:
Instant coffee
Biscuits
(in packets rather than in tins)
Tinned soup Sugar

Sun 30 EASTER 4	Belle Williams; Tom, Poppy, Pearl and Bow Wheatley
Mon 1 DEL Easter 4	Tim Willis; Jay, Lucy, Ava, Ivy and Bella Wilson
Tues 2 St Athanasius	Chris Wright; Lisa, Darren, Max and Oscar Ahmet-Baker
Wed 3 Feria	Louise Ahmet, Vinny, Benji and Sienna Payne
Thurs 4 Saints of the Reformation era	Martin, Kerri, Rebecca and Joseph Allen
Fri 5 Feria	Lebby and Sarah Anafu; Richard and Elizabeth Batchelor
Sat 6 Feria	Vicky Bellamy; Albert and Annie Bryan
Sun 7 EASTER 5	For the Musical Ministry of St James' Church

PRAYER BOARD/NOTICES Requests for prayer welcome

- BIRTHDAYS** Many Happy Returns today to Danni Green, tomorrow to Maria Flavius and on Friday to Wendy Fisher-Gordon.
- CONFIRMATION CANDIDATES** Please continue to pray for Mohammad Bagheri, Thomas G, Karensa Greenaway, Eva Kasella, Rebecca Lee, Jade Nicholson, Anneke Pol and Belle Williams.
- SICK** Peter Freeth, Kris Hyde, Hayley Jenkins, John, Kingsley Lewis, Beryl Lloyd, John Scott, Charlie Sharpe, Julia Taylor, Arthur Ward, Revd Marjorie Ward and Mary Whalley.
- MEMORIALS** Today: Vicki Simmons (2019); 5th: Kathleen Palmer (2001), Doris Akehurst (2001).
- INTERNATIONAL LINKS** *In the US:* Fr Travis Smith, Rector of Holy Comforter, Angleton and Mth Suzanne Smith, Rector of Grace Church, Alvin, Texas. *In Japan:* Fr Sebastian and Yuki Naniwa, now transferred to a university chaplaincy in Tokyo.



Open from
12 noon each
Monday.



YOU ARE WARMLY INVITED to the Dedication of the new organ on Sunday May 7th, starting with Choral Evensong at 5pm. The preacher will be Bp Stephen Oliver and the recital will be given by Professor Charles Andrews.



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PARISH MASS
for Easter 4
April 30th 2023

as streamed from
St James' Church
Islington N1



May God bless every
£1 we give so that St
James' will be here,
not just for today and
for tomorrow, but for
the future he wants to
create.

PARISH MASS
FOR EASTER 4 2023

Entry Hymn: **AM620 Lord Jesus, when you came to earth** [t St Botolph]

*Lord Jesus, when you came to earth,
you talked of life above:
through every culture, every birth,
you seek our answering love.*

*From east to west your love extends:
no distance is too far.
You call and claim us as your friends
and love us as we are.*

*Where age and gender, class and race
so easily divide,
you see a person and a face
and stretch your arms out wide.*

*May we, accepted, loved and free,
have confidence to know
that only in humility
can we find space to grow.*

(Words: JB, based on a hymn by Brian Wren)

The Greeting

In the name of the Father, and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Alleluia. Christ is risen:
He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Words of welcome or introduction may be said

Words of Preparation

Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us:
so let us celebrate the feast,
**not with the old leaven of corruption and wickedness:
but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.**

Christ, once raised from the dead dies no more:
death has no more dominion over him.
**In dying he died to sin once for all:
in living he lives to God.**

See yourselves therefore as dead to sin
and alive to God in Jesus Christ our Lord.
**Christ has been raised from the dead:
the first fruits of those who sleep.**

For as by man came death;
by man has come also the resurrection
of the dead.

**For as in Adam all die:
even so in Christ shall all be made alive!**

Confession

Easter Christ our Passover lamb has been sacrificed for us. Let us therefore rejoice by putting away all malice and evil and confessing our sins with a sincere and true heart

**Most merciful God,
Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
we confess that we have sinned
in thought, word and deed.
We have not loved you with our whole heart.
We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves.
In your mercy forgive what we have been,
help us to amend what we are,
and direct what we shall be;
that we may do justly, love mercy,
and walk humbly with you, our God. Amen.**

May the God of love and power forgive you and free you from your sins,
heal and strengthen you by his Spirit, and raise you to new life in Christ
our Lord. **Amen.**

Gloria

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 sins for 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.*

**Risen Christ, faithful shepherd of your Father's sheep: teach us to
hear your voice and to follow your commands, that all your
people may be gathered into one flock, to the glory of God the
Father. Amen.**

Sit

The Word of God

1st Reading: (Acts 2: 42-47) They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.

Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles. All who believed were together and had all things in common; they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual Hymn: AM799 The Lord's my shepherd

[t Crimond]

*The Lord's my shepherd, I'll not want,
he makes me down to lie
in pastures green, he leadeth me
the quiet waters by.*

*My soul he doth restore again,
and me to walk doth make
within the paths of righteousness,
e'en for his own name's sake.*

*Yea, though I walk in death's dark vale,
yet will I fear no ill.
for thou art with me, and thy rod
and staff me comfort still.*

*My table thou has furnishéd
in presence of my foes,
my head thou dost with oil anoint,
and my cup overflows.*

*Goodness and mercy all my life
shall surely follow me.
and in God's house for evermore
my dwelling place shall be.*

(Words: Scottish Psalter of 1650)

2nd Reading: (1 Peter 2: 19-end) For it is to your credit if, being aware of God, you endure pain while suffering unjustly. If you endure when you are beaten for doing wrong, where is the credit in that? But if you endure when you do right and suffer for it, you have God's approval. For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you should follow in his steps. 'He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth.' When he was abused, he did not return abuse; when he suffered, he did not threaten; but he entrusted himself to the one who judges justly. He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, free from sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. For you were going astray like sheep, but now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.
This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

A short time of silence follows as we reflect on all we have heard.

Let us stand and welcome the Gospel.

Gospel Acclamation

We sing together:



We say together:

I am the good shepherd, says the Lord; I know my own sheep and my own know me.

We sing once more:

Alleluia, your words, O Lord...

Gospel

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

(St John 10: 1-10) Jesus said, 'Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep.

The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers.'

Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them. So again Jesus said to them, 'Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly
This is the Gospel of the Lord **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sit

Sermon

Stand

Affirmation of Faith

We believe in God the Father; the almighty who is, and was, and is to come.

We believe in Jesus Christ; the faithful witness, the first-born from the dead, the King of Kings who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, giver of many gifts, sent from the throne on high.

We believe in one God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Sit

Prayers of Intercession

At the end:

Merciful Father: **accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

Stand

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 risen Lord. Alleluia.

The peace of the Lord be always with you. Alleluia, alleluia **and also with you. Alleluia, alleluia!**

Offertory Hymn: **AM499 Lord, you gave**

[t AM337 Blaenwern]

*Lord, you gave the great commission:
'Heal the sick and preach the Word'.
Lest the Church neglect it's mission
and the Gospel go unheard,
help us witness to your purpose
with renewed integrity;
with the Spirit's gifts empower us
for the work of ministry.*

*Lord, you show us love's true measure:
'Father, what they do, forgive'.
Yet we hoard as private treasure
all that you so freely give.
May your care and mercy lead us
to a just society;
with the Spirit's gifts empower us
for the work of ministry.*

*Lord, you bless with words assuring:
'I am with you to the end'.
Faith and hope and love restoring,
may we serve as you intend,
and, amid the cares that claim us,
hold in mind eternity;
with the Spirit's gifts empower us
for the work of ministry.*

Remain standing

Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation.
Through your goodness we have this bread to offer,
which earth has given and human hands have made.
It will become for us the bread of life.

Blessed be God for ever.

Blessed are you, Lord, God of creation.
Through your goodness we have this wine to offer,
Fruit of the vine and work of human hands.
It will become our spiritual drink.

Blessed be God for ever.

Pray, my friends, that our thanksgiving may be acceptable to God,
the almighty Father.

**May the Lord accept this sacrifice from our hands
for the praise and glory of his name,
for our good, and the good of all his Church.**

(Words: Jeffery Rowthorn)

At the Offertory

God of loving care, you spread before us the table of life, and give us the cup
of salvation to drink. Keep us always in the fold of your Son Jesus Christ, our
Saviour and our shepherd. **Amen.**

Remain standing

Eucharistic Prayer E

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.

It is indeed right, it is our duty and our joy, at all times and in all places
to give you thanks and praise, holy Father, heavenly King,
almighty and eternal God, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Sustaining God, you lead your sheep into green pastures
and lead them into still waters.
Now you lead us to the table of grace
where bread and wine restore our souls.

Here the Passover Lamb takes away the sins of the world,
enabling us to enter into the new and everlasting sheepfold of your kingdom
where we shall never again be in want.

So with all those who have heard your voice
and been adopted as children of your new covenant,
with angels and archangels and all the company of heaven,
we sing the hymn of your unending praise:

Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho-ly Lord. God of pow'r and might,
 heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho - san-na in the high - est.
 Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
 san - na! Ho - san - na! Ho - san-na in the high - est!

Sit

How wonderful the works of your hands, O Lord!
As a mother tenderly gathers her children
you embraced a people as your own.
When they turned away and rebelled your love remained steadfast.

From them you raised up Jesus our Saviour, born of Mary,
to be the living bread, in whom all our hungers are satisfied.
He offered his life for sinners and with a love stronger than death
he opened wide his arms on the cross.

On the night before he died, he came to supper with his friends,
and taking bread, he gave you thanks.
He broke it and gave it to them, saying: Take, eat; this is my body
which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.

At the end of supper, taking the cup of wine, he gave you thanks, and said:
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.

Let us proclaim the mystery of our faith:
Dying you destroyed our death,
Rising you restored our life.
Lord Jesus, come in glory.

Father, we plead with confidence his sacrifice made once for all
upon the cross; we remember his dying and rising in glory,
and we rejoice that he intercedes for us at your right hand.

Pour out your Holy Spirit as we bring before you
these gifts of your creation;
may they be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.

As we eat and drink these holy things in your presence,
form us into the likeness of Christ,
and build us into a living temple to your glory.

Bring us at the last with Mary, the Mother of God, St James, St Peter
and all the saints to the vision of that eternal splendour for which you
have created us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord;

by him, with him, and in him, with all who stand before you in earth and
heaven, we worship you, Father almighty, in songs of everlasting praise:



As our Saviour taught us, so we pray:

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy king - dom come,
Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our dai - ly bread,
and for - give us our tres - pass - es, as we for - give those who tres - pass a - gainst us.
And lead us not in - to temp - tation, but de - liv er us from evil.
For Thine is the kingdom the power and the glory for ev er and ev - er, A - men.

Fraction

I heard the voice of a great multitude crying, 'Alleluia.'
The Lord our God has entered into his kingdom.
Blessed are those who are called to the supper of the Lamb.

Agnus Dei



Je-sus, Lamb of God: have mer-cy up-on us.
Je-sus, bear-er of our sins: have mer-cy up-on us. Je-sus, re-deem-er
of the world: give us your peace.

Invitation

Draw near with faith, receive the Body of our Lord Jesus Christ which was broken for you, and his blood which was shed for you.

Eat and drink in remembrance that he died for you and feed on him in your hearts with thanksgiving; for this is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. Happy 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.

After Communion: **AM456 Now let us from this table rise** [t Solothurn]

**Now let us from this table rise
renewed in body, mind and soul;
with Christ we die and rise again
his selfless love has made us whole.**

**With minds alert, upheld by grace,
to spread the word in speech and deed,
we follow in the steps of Christ,
at one with all in hope and need.**

**To fill each human house with love,
it is the sacrament of care;
the work that Christ began to do
we humbly pledge ourselves to share.**

**Then grant us grace, Companion-God,
to choose again the pilgrim way
and help us to accept with joy
the challenge of tomorrow's day.**

(Words: Fred Kaan)

Communion Antiphon:

The Good Shepherd is risen! He who laid down his life for his sheep, who died for his flock, he is risen, Alleluia

Post Communion

**Father of all, we give you thanks and praise,
that when we were still far off
you met us in your Son and brought us home.
Dying and living he declared your love, gave us grace,
and opened the gate of glory.**

**May we who share Christ's body live his risen life;
we who drink his cup bring life to others;
we whom the Spirit lights give light to the world.**

**Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us,
so we and all your children shall be free,
and the whole earth live to praise your name;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Community Notices

Stand

Blessing

May Christ, who out of defeat brings new hope and a new future,
fill us with his risen life; and the blessing...

Dismissal

Go in the peace of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia.
Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia

Final Hymn: **CAHON8 Alleluia, alleluia**

**Alleluia, alleluia, give thanks to the risen Lord;
Alleluia, alleluia, give thanks to his name.**

**Jesus is Lord of all the earth.
He is the King of Creation.**

**Spread the Good News o'er all the earth.
Jesus has died and is risen.**

**God has proclaimed the just reward;
'Life for us all, Alleluia'.**

**Come let us praise the living God,
joyfully sing to our Saviour.**