

Sunday 31st March Easter Sunday

THE COLLECT

God of glory,
by the raising of your Son you
have broken the chains of death
and hell: fill your Church with
faith and hope; for a new day
has dawned and the way to life
stands open in our Saviour
Jesus Christ.

FIRST READING

Acts 10.34-43

Then Peter began to speak to
them: 'I truly understand that God
shows no partiality,³⁵ but in every
nation anyone who fears him and
does what is right is acceptable to
him.³⁶ You know the message he
sent to the people of Israel,
preaching peace by Jesus
Christ—he is Lord of all.³⁷ That
message spread throughout
Judea, beginning in Galilee after
the baptism that John announced:
³⁸ 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.³⁹ 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;⁴⁰ but God raised him on the
third day and allowed him to
appear,⁴¹ 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.⁴² 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.⁴³ All the prophets testify
about him that everyone who
believes in him receives
forgiveness of sins through his
name.'

SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 15.1-11

Now I should remind you, brothers
and sisters, of the good news that
I proclaimed to you, which you in
turn received, in which also you
stand,² through which also you
are being saved, if you hold firmly
to the message that I proclaimed
to you—unless you have come to
believe in vain.³ For I handed on
to you as of first importance what
I in turn had received: that Christ
died for our sins in accordance
with the scriptures,⁴ and that he
was buried, and that he was
raised on the third day in
accordance with the
scriptures,⁵ and that he appeared
to Cephas, then to the
twelve.⁶ Then he appeared to
more than five hundred brothers
and sisters at one time, most of
whom are still alive, though some
have died.⁷ Then he appeared to
James, then to all the
apostles.⁸ Last of all, as to
someone untimely born, he
appeared also to me.⁹ For I am
the least of the apostles, unfit to
be called an apostle, because I
persecuted the church of God.
¹⁰ But by the grace of God I am

what I am, and his grace towards
me has not been in vain. On the
contrary, I worked harder than any
of them—though it was not I, but
the grace of God that is with me.
¹¹ Whether then it was I or they,
so we proclaim and so you have
come to believe.

GOSPEL

John 20.1-18

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.² 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.'³ Then
Peter and the other disciple set
out and went towards the
tomb.⁴ The two were running
together, but the other disciple
outran Peter and reached the
tomb first.⁵ He bent down to look
in and saw the linen wrappings
lying there, but he did not go
in.⁶ Then Simon Peter came,
following him, and went into the
tomb. He saw the linen wrappings
lying there,⁷ and the cloth that
had been on Jesus' head, not
lying with the linen wrappings but
rolled up in a place by
itself.⁸ Then the other disciple,
who reached the tomb first, also
went in, and he saw and
believed;⁹ for as yet they did not
understand the scripture, that he
must rise from the dead.¹⁰ Then

the disciples returned to their
homes.¹¹ But Mary stood
weeping outside the tomb. As she
wept, she bent over to look into
the tomb;¹² 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.¹³ 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.'¹⁴ When she
had said this, she turned round
and saw Jesus standing there, but
she did not know that it was
Jesus.¹⁵ 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.'¹⁶ Jesus said
to her, 'Mary!' She turned and
said to him in Hebrew, Rabbouni!
(which means Teacher).¹⁷ 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."¹⁸ 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.

PSALM 118.1-2,14-24

¹ O give thanks to the Lord, for he
is good; his steadfast love
endures for ever!² Let Israel say,

'His steadfast love endures for
ever.'¹⁴ The LORD is my strength
and my might; he has become my
salvation.¹⁵ There are glad songs
of victory in the tents of the
righteous: 'The right hand of
the LORD does valiantly;¹⁶ the
right hand of the LORD is exalted;
the right hand of the LORD does
valiantly.'¹⁷ I shall not die, but I
shall live, and recount the deeds
of the LORD.¹⁸ The LORD has
punished me severely, but he did
not give me over to death.¹⁹ Open
to me the gates of righteousness,
that I may enter through them and
give thanks to the LORD.²⁰ This is
the gate of the LORD; the
righteous shall enter through it.²¹ I
thank you that you have answered
me and have become my
salvation.²² The stone that the
builders rejected has become the
chief cornerstone.²³ This is
the LORD's doing; it is marvellous
in our eyes.²⁴ This is the day that
the LORD has made; let us rejoice
and be glad in it.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

God of Life,
who for our redemption gave your
only-begotten Son
to the death of the cross,
and by his glorious resurrection
have delivered us from the power
of our enemy:
grant us so to die daily to sin,
that we may evermore live with
him in the joy of his risen life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.