



Parish Eucharist

Easter Day

Sunday 31st March 2024

Presiding Priest and Preacher: Revd Vanessa Elston

Director of Music: Ms Katy Silverman



stmarysbattersea



Welcome to St Mary's, especially if this is your first time here. We hope you will find the love of God in Jesus in our worship and among the people of this parish church.

I'm currently 'covering' here at St Mary's and I'll be here for a while longer into 2024. If I can help you in my time here, please just let me know. The best way to get in touch is via the Parish Office.

Reverend Vanessa Elston

Giving to St Mary's

We have an online giving facility at St Mary's via Give a Little. This means that you can give in a number of ways.

Online via this link or the QR code below: <https://bit.ly/SMBRegular2021>



Via the Contactless Giving Machine available at the back of the church.

Via the Yellow Gift Aid Envelope in the order of service or available at the back of the church. Please complete all the details on the front of the envelope.

Via the Cash Collection during the service.

You can also set up a Standing Order. Our bank details are: Battersea Parish Church PCC, Sort Code 502101, Account Number: 82127468

**Baptised members of all Christian traditions
are welcome to receive Communion here today.**

**If you need a gluten-free wafer please let one of the Welcomers
know (before the service starts if possible.)**

Everyone is invited to come to the altar rail for a blessing.

Baby changing facilities and toilets can be found downstairs in the Crypt.

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We Gather as God's People

Welcome

A member of St Mary's welcomes us to church this morning.

Hymn

Jesus Christ is risen today, 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.

Charles Wesley (1707-88)

The Greeting

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

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Alleluia, Christ is risen!

He is risen indeed, Alleluia!

Vanessa welcomes us and sets the scene for our worship.

Prayer of Preparation

**Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known,
and from whom no secrets are hidden:
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you,
and worthily magnify your holy name;
through Christ our Lord. Amen**

Prayers of Penitence

Vanessa invites the people to recall and confess their sins.

Christ died to sin once for all, and now he lives to God. Let us renew our resolve to have done with all that is evil and confess our sins in penitence and faith.

Like Mary at the empty tomb, we fail to grasp the wonder of your presence.
Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Like the disciples behind locked doors, we are afraid to be seen as your followers.
Christ, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Like Thomas in the upper room, we are slow to believe.
Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

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

(Setting of the Mass: Nardone)

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. Amen.

Collect

Let us pray.

Silence is kept.

Lord of all life and power, who through the mighty resurrection of your Son
overcame the old order of sin and death to make all things new in him:
grant that we, being dead to sin and alive to you in Jesus Christ,
may reign with him in glory;
to whom with you and the Holy Spirit
be praise and honour, glory and might, now and in all eternity. **Amen.**



After collecting the Children's Cross and some words from Vanessa all children are welcome to head downstairs.

We take off our shoes, and sit in a circle for a quiet Godly Play story, followed by some mindful craft. The children rejoin upstairs for Holy Communion.

The Liturgy of the Word

First Reading: Acts 10:34-43

Read by Katy Silverman

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

Peter began to speak to those assembled in the house of Cornelius. '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.'

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:1-11

Read by Emily Standring

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

I would remind you, brothers and sisters, of the good news that I proclaimed to you, which you in turn received, in which also you stand, 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. 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, and that he was buried, and that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures, and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers and sisters at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died. Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me. For I am the least of the apostles, unfit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. 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. Whether then it was I or they, so we proclaim and so you have come to believe.

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Gospel Hymn

1. Christ is alive! Let Christians sing.
The cross stands empty to the sky.
Let streets and homes with praises ring.
Love, drowned in death, shall never die.

2. Christ is alive! No longer bound
to distant years in Palestine,
but saving, healing, here and now,
and touching every place and time.

3. In every insult, rift and war,
where colour, scorn or wealth divide,
Christ suffers still, yet loves the more,
and lives, where even hope has died.

4. Women and men, in age and youth,
can feel the Spirit, hear the call,
and find the way, the life, the truth,
revealed in Jesus, freed for all.

5. Christ is alive, and comes to bring
good news to this and every age,
till earth and sky and ocean ring
with joy, with justice, love and praise.

Brian Wren (b 1936)
© 1969, 1995 Stainer & Bell Ltd

Gospel Reading: Mark 16:1-8

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.

Glory to you, O Lord.

When the sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. They had been saying to one another, ‘Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?’ When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back. As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man, dressed in a white robe, sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed. But he

said to them, 'Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him. But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you.' So they went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

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

Sermon

Revd Vanessa Elston

We keep a few moments of silence after the sermon.

Anthem

Blessed be the God and Father

Samuel Sebastian Wesley

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, To an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you, Who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed at the last time. But as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation. Pass the time of your sojourning here in fear. Love one another with a pure heart fervently. See that ye love one another. Love one another with a pure heart fervently: Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God. For all flesh is as grass, and all the glory of man as the flower of grass. The grass withereth, and the flower thereof falleth away. But the word of the Lord endureth for ever. Amen

Affirmation of Faith

Let us affirm our faith in Jesus Christ the Son of God.

**Though he was divine, he did not cling to equality with God,
but made himself nothing.**

Taking the form of a slave, he was born in human likeness.

He humbled himself and was obedient to death, even the death of the cross.

Therefore God has raised him on high,

and given him the name above every name:

that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow,

and every voice proclaim that Jesus Christ is Lord,

to the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Prayers of Intercession

We are led in prayers of concern.

At the end of the prayers the leader says

Merciful Father,

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

The Liturgy of the Sacrament

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. Alleluia!

The peace of the risen Christ be always with you

And also with you. Alleluia!

A greeting or a handshake of Peace is exchanged.

Offertory Hymn

From the very depths of darkness springs a bright and living light;
out of falsehood and deceit a greater truth is brought to sight;
in the halls of death, defiant, life is dancing with delight!
The Lord is risen indeed!

*Christ is risen! Hallelujah! Christ is risen! Hallelujah!
Christ is risen! Hallelujah! The Lord is risen indeed!*

In the light of resurrection, Jesus, call us all by name,
'Do not cling to what is past, for things can never be the same;
to the trembling and the fearful, we've a gospel to proclaim:
The Lord is risen indeed!'

Christ is risen! Hallelujah!...

In the heartlands of oppression, sound the cry of liberty:
where the poor are crucified, behold the Lord of Calvary;
from the fear of death and dying, Christ has set his people free;
the Lord is risen indeed!

Christ is risen! Hallelujah!...

Tell the despots and dictators of a love they've never known
in their guarded palace-tombs, condemned to live and die alone:
'Take the risk of love and freedom; Christ has rolled away the stone!
The Lord is risen indeed!'

Christ is risen! Hallelujah!...

When our spirits are entombed in mortal prejudice and pride;
when the gates of hell itself are firmly bolted from inside;
at the bidding of his Spirit, we may fling them open wide;
the Lord is risen indeed!

Christ is risen! Hallelujah!...

*Michael Forster (b 1946)
©1992 Kevin Mayhew*

Eucharistic Prayer

The words of the Eucharistic Prayer are said mainly by the priest, although they are prayed by the whole congregation. You may find it helpful to your prayer to look and listen as the presiding priest leads us in this part of the service.

We pray with our eyes as well as our ears.

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, our duty and our joy, always and everywhere to give you thanks, almighty and eternal Father, and in these days of Easter to celebrate with joyful hearts the memory of your wonderful works.

For by the mystery of his passion Jesus Christ, your risen Son, has conquered the powers of death and hell and restored in men and women the image of your glory. He has placed them once more in paradise and opened to them the gate of life eternal. And so, in the joy of this Passover, earth and heaven resound with gladness, while angels and archangels and the powers of all creation sing for ever the hymn of your glory:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes, who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna, hosanna in the highest.**

Accept our praises, heavenly Father, through your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ, and as we follow his example and obey his command, grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit these gifts of bread and wine may be to us his body and his blood;

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.

Therefore, heavenly Father, we remember his offering of himself made once for all upon the cross; we proclaim his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; we look for the coming of your kingdom, and with this bread and this cup we make the memorial of Christ your Son our Lord.

Great is the mystery of faith:

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

Accept through him, our great high priest, this our sacrifice of thanks and praise, and as we eat and drink these holy gifts in the presence of your divine majesty, renew us by your Spirit, inspire us with your love and unite us in the body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Through him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, with all who stand before you in earth and heaven, we worship you, Father almighty, in songs of everlasting praise:

Blessing and honour and glory and power be yours for ever and ever. Amen.

Silence is kept.

The Lord's Prayer

Rejoicing in God's new creation,
let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us:

**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.**

Breaking of the Bread

Jesus says, I am the bread of life, Whoever eats this bread will live for ever.
Lord, our hearts hunger for you; give us this bread always.

Agnus Dei

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, grant us peace.

Invitation to Communion

Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.
Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!

We come forward to receive Holy Communion. For many people in church this is the most special part of the service and we request that we remain in silent prayer or that we sing the Communion hymn.

Communion Hymn

Now the green blade riseth from the buried grain,
Wheat that in the 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:
Love is come again, like wheat that springeth green.
Forth he came at Easter, like the risen grain,
He that for the three days in the grave had lain,
Quick from the dead my risen Lord is seen:
Love is come again, like wheat that springeth green.

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:
Love is come again, like wheat that springeth green.

J M C Crum (1872-1958)
© Oxford University Press

Communion Motet

This Joyful Eastertide *Arr. Charles Wood*

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, arisen, arisen, arisen.

Death's flood hath lost its chill, since Jesus crossed the river: Lover of souls, from ill my passing soul deliver...

My flesh in hope shall rest, and for a season slumber, till trump from east to west shall wake the dead in number...

Post Communion Prayers

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. **Amen**

**Almighty God, we thank you for feeding us
with the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ.
Through him we offer you our souls and bodies to be a living sacrifice.
Send us out in the power of your Spirit
to live and work to your praise and glory. Amen.**

We Commit Ourselves to God's Service

Banns of Marriage are read and any news and notices shared.

Blessing

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

God the Father, by whose love Christ was raised from the dead
open to you who believe the gate of everlasting life. **Amen.**

God the Son, who in bursting from the grave has won a glorious victory,
give you joy as you share the Easter faith. **Amen.**

God the Holy Spirit, who filled the disciples with the life of the risen Lord, empower you and fill you with Christ's peace. **Amen.**

And the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Closing 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:

No more we doubt thee, glorious prince of life;
life is naught 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:

Edmund L Budry (1854-1932) tr Richard Hoyle (1875-1939)

Dismissal



3 *Choir and Congregation*



Voluntary

PLEASE DO STAY FOR REFRESHMENTS AFTERWARDS.

For Your Prayers

The Sick and those in Need: Amy Cole, Mark Winckley, Gillie & Johnnie H & Martina L, John Crace, Stephanie Ablett & Family, William & Llewellyn, William's Mum, Harry & Jess, Sally, Nick Wigley, Richard Grove, Ian Burns, Lieve, Meadbank Residents, Catherine Princess of Wales, Sarah de Leeuw

The Recently Departed and their Families: Patrick Cormack, Stuart, Valerie Pritchard, Stuart, Florence Pedley, Eileen Cole, June Cheeseman, Mike Roberts, Ivor Smith, Cameran Preast, Clare Deutsch

This Week

The office is open in church on Tues, Wed and Fri 10am – 4pm. Closed on Monday due to the Bank Holiday

Monday 1 April	Bellringing at 7.30pm
Wednesday 3 April	Choir Practice at 7.30pm
Friday 5 April	St Marys Jazz Evening at 8.00pm

Sunday 7 April – The Second Sunday of Easter

8.30 am	Holy Communion
9.30am	Family@Church
11.00am	Parish Eucharist

Morning Preacher: Venerable Stephen Taylor

Parish Office Notices

The office is open in church on Tues, Wed and Fri 10am – 4pm. Closed on Monday due to the Bank Holiday

Church Bollard Keys: The new keys are arriving w/c 1 April so please email the office if your key no longer works

Flowers in Church: Have returned after Easter! If you would like to sponsor one of the Sundays, please put the details on the sheet at the back of the board or contact Melora. Please do consider joining the team if you are passionate about flowers and contact Melora on melorahamer@gmail.com

Thursday Study Group at 1:30: There is NO study group on the 28th March, 4 April or 11 April. They will next meet on Thursday 18th April.

Newsletters: the next deadline is Wed 10 April and published 12 April

Holy Communion – Thursdays.

The 12:30 Thursday Holy Communion Service will resume on Thursday 11 April

Fundraising Administrator Part time Role – A part time contract position to support the St Mary's Church Battersea in their 2024-25 fundraising efforts. This role will provide effective administrative support to the Vicar & Fundraising Project Group and work closely with the Parish Manager. This role will report into the vicar and is likely to be 8-10 hours a week. Please contact office@stmarysbattersea.org.uk for more information, a job spec or informal information chat!

Deputy Wardens: The PCC would be interested in hearing from anyone who might be willing to serve St Mary's in the role of Deputy Warden in the coming year. This would not be an official role but is intended to provide some support to the Wardens in the exercise of their duties. The PCC would ideally like to appoint two deputies and anyone who might be interested should please speak to Stephen, Evalyn or Stuart

Can you help? Church Project Groups:

We are looking for volunteers to join the Vicar, PCC Reps and office manager on the following groups:

Project Group: This group will oversee the progress of the Moorings project.

Church Finance & Fundraising Group: this will focus on capital expenditure projects the church needs to undertake and how to raise funds (Heating, Portico, Church Wall etc.

Please contact Felicity/Stephen to find out more or to put yourself forward for a group at office@stmarysbattersea.org.uk

Foodbank & St Marys: THANK YOU!!!! Through donations of eggs/money, St Marys has been able to donate nearly 100 Easter Eggs to Foodbank for Easter. If you would like to still give at Easter to foodbank, please bring some of the items below or donate in the cash box in Church

UHT milk	Coffee (small jars)	Tinned meals (spaghetti, chicken or veg curries, chilli)
Tinned meat (hotdogs, meatballs etc.)	Long-life juice	Tinned soup
Tinned fish	Pasta sauce	Jam and spreads
Tinned fruit	Tinned veg (potatoes, carrots, green beans, tomatoes)	Shower gel
Sponge/rice puddings	Toilet rolls	Laundry detergent pods
Shampoo/conditioner	Washing up liquid	
Deodorant		

St Mary's Battersea – A Way of Life

St Mary's Battersea wants to offer opportunities to explore a Christian Way of Life in 2024. Across the Year we will explore:

- i) The Christian God as revealed in the Bible and as Father, Son and Holy Spirit.**
- ii) An opportunity to see ourselves as we truly are and discover our potential.**
- iii) Why we should and how we can contribute to making the world a better place.**

We will follow a course to explore the Bible over eight sessions: showing how key events, books and characters fit together from Genesis to Revelation.

Sessions on: Music and Worship, Prayer and Meditation, Anger and Justice, Action and Activity, Forgiveness and Healing, Knowing God and Knowing Self. Exploring how we each can have life and have it abundantly.

Format will be online & in-person and provide material for personal use and study. The in-person meetings will be held on Tuesday's at 7pm at the Vicarage

- April 9, 23, May 7, 14, 28, June 11, 25, July 9

Film Night event on 19 May NEW DATE. (At Church)

This is a in-person film night to see and discuss the film called "The Way" and will be shown at St Mary's Battersea

If you are interested, please email the office at office@stmarysbattersea.org.uk or speak to Stephen to find out more