



Sunday 11 April 2010
SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER
10:00 am Swannington

Collect:

Almighty Father, who have given your only Son to die for our sins and to rise again for our justification: grant us so to put away the leaven of malice and wickedness that we may always serve you in pureness of living and truth; through the merits of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

First Reading: Acts 5.27-32

When the temple police had brought the apostles, they made them stand before the council. The high priest questioned them, saying, 'We gave you strict orders not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and you are determined to bring this man's blood on us.' But Peter and the apostles answered, 'We must obey God rather than any human authority. The God of our ancestors raised up Jesus, whom you had killed by hanging him on a tree. God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Saviour that he might give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey him.'

Psalm 150 (please remain seated)

Response: *Let everything that has breath praise the Lord.*

Alleluia. O praise God in his holiness;
praise him in the firmament of his power.
Praise him for his mighty acts;
praise him according to his excellent greatness. *(Response)*

Praise him with the blast of the trumpet;
praise him upon the harp and lyre.
Praise him with timbrel and dances;
praise him upon the strings and pipe. *(Response)*

Praise him with ringing cymbals;
praise him upon the clashing cymbals.
Let everything that has breath praise the Lord.
Alleluia! *(Response)*

Second Reading: Revelation 1.4-8

John to the seven churches that are in Asia: Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth. To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood, and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.

Look! He is coming with the clouds;
every eye will see him,
even those who pierced him;
and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail.
So it is to be. Amen.
'I am the Alpha and the Omega', says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

Gospel: John 20.19-31

It was evening on the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.' After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, 'Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.' When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, 'Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.'

But Thomas, called the Twin, one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. The other disciples told him, 'We have seen the Lord.' But he said to them, 'Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.'

If you *are* thinking of standing for any of our PCCs, or as Churchwarden in any of our parishes, don't forget that nominations have to be in writing, and in Selwyn's hands before the relevant Annual Meeting begins. Copies of the parishes' Annual Reports & Financial Statements, and the Agendas for those meetings, are also now available in each church.



On **Friday 30th April** there is a Beetle Drive in Weston village hall at 7:30 pm. Children free, adults £1. A raffle and some very light refreshments. This is mainly an excuse for some old-fashioned family fun, but any small profit will go to Weston church funds. Tickets available now from Selwyn, Dot, or Lady Ann.



A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.' Then he said to Thomas, 'Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.' Thomas answered him, 'My Lord and my God!' Jesus said to him, 'Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.'

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

Offertory Hymn:

Blessed Thomas, doubt no longer,
See the wounds in hand and side,
Now behold the risen Saviour
Who for thee has bled and died,
And from death's dark pit arising
Lives in body glorified.

Here behold the love victorious,
Over death triumphant now,
See the feet where nails were driven,
And thy faith in him avow:
For he lives, the world's redeemer,
Unto whom all knees shall bow.

Thomas looked upon the Master:
Was it then indeed the Lord?
Were those wounds no phantom tokens?
Did the sight with truth accord?
Scarce believing, joy unbounded,
Leapt to greet the Saviour's word.

Prostrate falling, Thomas worshipped:
 'O my Master, Lord and God',
 Here in truth was Christ the Saviour
 Who the path of suffering trod,
 And, to ransom souls unnumbered,
 Broke in pieces Satan's rod.

Thomas, sight has now convinced thee,
 Faith within thy heart has stirred;
 Bless-ed more those faithful servants,
 Trusting in the Saviour's word,
 Who, though vision is denied them,
 Still believe, and own him Lord.

Grant, O Father, that among them
 We thy servants may be known,
 And the ground be ever fruitful
 Where the seed of faith was sown,
 Till at length in heaven's glory,
 Faith and vision are but one.



This week we pray particularly for those who live and work along **School Road** in Swannington.

Please continue to pray for the sick & those in need:

*Jack Coxall; Osvaldo Ferreira; Peter Frost; Sandy Garfield; Patrick Grant;
 Neita Harvey; Peter Hodges; John & Linda; Gus Jones; Pauline Lomax; Wally;
 Paul McCoy; Pat Phipps; Mel Tuddenham; Val; Alex Williams; Freda.*

Daily services resume at their usual times on Tuesday this week

Events this week:

Tue	7:30 pm	Swannington Community Project open meeting
Wed	7:30 pm	Joint Benefice Fete Committee meets at The Old Hart
Sat	10:00 am	Annual spring-clean at Swannington church
	10:30 am	Baptism rehearsal at Ringland

Next Sunday: Easter 3

5:00 pm Saturday	The Eucharist at Swannington	
	9:00 am	Holy Communion (1662) at Ringland
<i>No service at Swannington this morning</i>		
	10:15 am	Holy Communion (1662) at Great Witchingham followed by Annual Parochial Church Meeting
	6:00 pm	Evensong at Alderford

Future Events

Mon 19th	7:30 pm	Weston Longville APCM in church; speaker afterwards, Richard Butler (diocesan secretary). People from all our churches, particularly PCC members, are invited to come and meet Richard.
Tue 20th	3:30 pm	"All Saints Alive" after-school club at Great Witchingham School
	7:30 pm	Swannington APCM in church
Wed 21st	7:00 pm	Ringland APCM in church
Fri 23rd	7:30 pm	Benefice Eucharist for St George's Day, with hymns, at Swannington

Sunday 25th: Easter 4

8:00 am	Holy Communion (1662) at Great Witchingham	
9:00 am	Morning Prayer led by the churchwardens at Ringland	
10:00 am	The Eucharist at Attlebridge, followed by APCM	
6:00 pm	Evensong at Weston Longville	

Annual Parochial Church Meetings take place as listed above. Nomination lists are now up in all the churches, if you wish to stand either as a Churchwarden or as a member of the PCC during the elections at those meetings.

It is probably worth reminding everyone that you need to be on the Electoral Roll in order to vote; and also that if you are thinking of standing for election, *you must:*

- be on the church's Electoral Roll
- have received communion at least three times during the past year
- be aged 18 or over
- not be disqualified by law from being a charity trustee