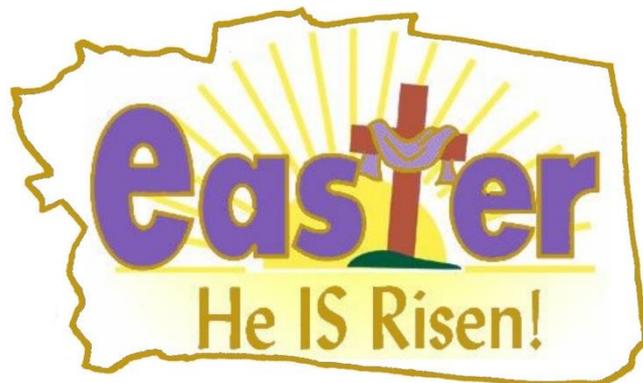


# Ringstone in Aveland News Sheet

12 April 2020  
Easter Sunday



Click on the logo for some Easter music

## A message from Revd Neil

Dear Friends

We have a challenge ahead of us as we approach Holy Week. The Church of England has offered this for us to ponder.

Living through a prolonged 'Holy Saturday'

We have already become 'a different sort of church' in unprecedented ways. The very place in which the body of Christ finds its identity, offers prayer, and receives solace in time of crisis—that is, the church building—is not available to us, and, as in the early days of our faith, public gatherings of Christians outside the home are forbidden.

Nevertheless, we are finding ways to join in prayer and intention; to cry 'Abba, Father'; and to recognise we are all buried with Christ by baptism into his death, that we might walk in newness of life. The present situation does not negate the joy we have been granted in the resurrection, but it will be lived out this year in different ways.

Holy Week and Easter, in particular, will give us opportunities to reflect on all of these matters. In the annual commemoration of the passion, death, and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ, we explore who we are and our relationship to the God who loves us. We are enabled to realise, quite counter-culturally, that everything that we have that is good is a gift, and not a right. Unlike God, we, as humans do not always have the answers.

We can reflect that, even in the hardest of times, even in the prolonged 'Holy Saturday' of emptiness in which we find ourselves, there is always hope. God, whose nature is mercy, sent his Son, who experienced the fullness of our own human suffering and makes all things new. We are still called upon to serve those within and beyond the church, and to care for the vulnerable. Our historic structures still place us at the heart of the community and indeed of public life. Those of us in the church are sometimes called upon to be spokespeople for our ecumenical partners and for those of other faiths who are experiencing similar difficulties to our own.

In these dark times, when it is not possible to recall the death and resurrection of Christ in our church buildings, we have the opportunity to mark Holy Week at home. We can discover how what we are now experiencing may contribute to our own ongoing journey as God's people. The homes in which we now mainly find ourselves

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offer us a place in which our faith can be discovered afresh, where we can find 'the Church within'. Some of the suggested activities nod in that direction. In the renewed hope that will come from remembering the story of our salvation, we hope that all the faithful will experience the genuine, unreserved joy of Easter.

With every blessing

Revd Neil

### **Collect for Easter Sunday**

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**



### **Readings for Easter Sunday**

[Acts 10.34-43](#)

[Colossians 3.1-4](#)

[John 20.1-18](#)

### **Post Communion Prayer for Easter Sunday**

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**

### **From our prayer list. Please pray for...**

Eben Atkinson, Sheila Bates, Edith Bond, Margaret Brumby, Stephen Buckman, Annie Ewer, Sue Grainge, Paul Hardingham, Annie Hersey, Arthur Jeffries, Elva Lamb, Imogen Matthews, John Rowntree, Shelagh Sands, Jose Stokes, Christine Ward, and for any others whom we name in the silence of our hearts.

We give thanks for those on the road to recovery.

We also remember the souls Dorothy Marshall, Tim Watson and of all the faithful departed may they rest in peace and rise in glory; and we also pray for those who mourn their loss.

### **Sharing in Prayer – the Diocesan Prayer Diary. Please pray for**

Alleluia! Christ is risen! Today we worship the risen Lord, who changes everything, who has even conquered death, and who leads us into new life.

Pray for the Peace of Jerusalem and the People of the Land of the Holy One.

Church schools in Haverstoe Deanery

Our bishops and the members of the Bishop's Staff team.

The intentions of the following parishes, groups and Deaneries: the Deanery of Haverstoe; the Abbey Group; Holton-le-Clay, Tetney and North Cotes; Humberston.

The intentions of all those from outside our diocese but listed in the prayer diary, including the churches in Mishamikoweesh, Western Newfoundland (Canada); Western Louisiana, Mississippi; Western Massachusetts, Missouri, Western Michigan, Western New York, Western North Carolina (USA); Ife, Ife East, Ifo, Igbomina (Nigeria); Western Mexico (Mexico); Mityana (Uganda); Mombasa (Kenya); Monmouth (Wales); Western Tanganyika (Tanzania)

**NB a full copy of the diocesan 'Sharing in Prayer' can be [found on our website](#)**

### **A reflection on today's Gospel reading**

On the first day of the week,  
Mary of Magdala came to the tomb early in the morning,  
While it was still dark, and saw the stone removed from the tomb.

#### Reflection:

What and where are the empty tombs for us? Relationships that have died, or dried up; pursuits and ambitions that have proven vain and wasted; misplaced confidences in what was shallow and fruitless; nostalgic attempts to re-create the warm and good feelings we had when we were children coming to church on Easter Sunday?.

#### So, we ask ourselves:

- ❖ Does the empty tomb remind us of the places and situations in our lives which have proved lifeless and left us empty inside?
- ❖ Do I believe that Christ is alive and with me as I peer into the empty tomb

#### **Readings for Morning Prayer for this week**

**(click on the reading to link through to the text)**

Monday: [Psalm 111](#); [Exodus 12.1-14](#); [1 Corinthians 15.1-11](#)

Tuesday: [Psalm 27](#); [Exodus 12.14-36](#); [1 Corinthians 15.12-19](#)

Wednesday: [Psalm 102](#); [Exodus 12.37-end](#); [1 Corinthians 15.20-28](#)

Thursday: [Psalm 42](#); [Exodus 13.1-16](#); [1 Corinthians 15.29-34](#)

Friday: [Psalm 69](#); [Exodus 13.17-14.14](#); [1 Corinthians 15.35-50](#)

Saturday: [Psalm 142](#); [Exodus 14.15-end](#); [1 Corinthians 15.51-end](#)

## APCMs

The Church of England has extended the date by which APCMs need to be held to October 2020. New dates for the five APCMs will be set once the threat of coronavirus has passed.



### Bourne Food Bank

For quite a while now we have been supporting the local Food bank and they have been grateful for all our contributions.

However, given the current crisis, things are looking rather bleak and they are struggling to cope with the situation.

Demand is growing and the donations decreasing which results in a huge gap to fill.

This is not surprising.

Children are not at school and therefore not receiving meals there, parents and carers may have lost their source of income due to lack of work or illness.

Couple this with the problems faced by those who would usually be able to donate whose income is uncertain or stopped and getting to the shops to buy food has become more of an issue for all of us.

Sadly there are rumours that people who do not need help can access Food banks and this deters some people from giving but this is not the case as a referral is needed.

This all leads to a difficult situation for many.

To try to help I have left a plastic boxes just inside the gate to the vicarage.

If you are able to leave anything in the boxes as you go on your daily walk around the parish, I will take it to the Food bank on Tuesday or Friday.

Please continue to observe the social distancing advice when you come to drop off.

I am not asking you to risk your health or well-being.

Do keep safe and stay well.

If you would rather give in another way, you can make a gift of money, please see their website <http://www.bournefoodbank.org.uk/page10.html>

Thank you for your kindness and generosity

Revd. Neil

### Communication

[www.ringstonegroupchurches.org](http://www.ringstonegroupchurches.org).

**If you have items to be included in the news sheet, please let Sue know by emailing [ringstoneoffice@gmail.com](mailto:ringstoneoffice@gmail.com) before 10am on a Tuesday**