

Sunday 3rd May 2026
Fifth Sunday of Easter



Dear Church family

Last week over 62 people joined Prof Bugs for breakfast and a riveting conversation about evolution and faith, It was so encouraging to see many people who are not regulars at the church asking questions and wrestling with the issue. We hope to arrange another BIG breakfast later this year. Our Pub nights resume in June at both the Chaser and Flintgate every month. Last week Lorna, introduced us to Paul and his letter to the Romans - helping us to see the compassion and humility of Paul as he shouts about the gospel for all (Jew and Gentile), and sets out the trajectory for the whole letter. This week we have what John Stott calls the 'downward spiral', we wrestle with the wrath of God, ask questions like 'why do we need a saviour?' and answer the question 'what about people who never hear of Jesus or Christianity?' Romans is a challenging but important book in the New Testament, take time to read it before you come

to church or better still join a home group. There are groups on Monday, Tuesday (lunchtime and evening) and Wednesday, to fit around your schedule. Speak to Julian (Tuesday Lunch), Lorna (Wednesday), or Brian (Monday + Tuesday) evenings.

Our 4pm, service is now weekly, and we are looking for welcomers and readers at both morning and evening services as we grow our community connection, do share this with neighbours and friends, as it is a good time for the elderly, who struggle with mornings and sporty families. Every week, we are discovering musical talents within the congregation for the music group.

As we continue to review our accessibility, we have become aware of several members of the parish who would come and join us if help getting to Church could be found. Please contact our office if you can help.



Post Easter churches in Walton as part of the '_____'

<https://www.jointhestory.co.uk/> have encouraged evangelism, handed out Bibles, held monthly prayer meetings and provided opportunities for 'come and see' events. Many like us are now running 321 courses for enquirers, join us for a celebration on the 17th May 6.30pm at St John's Church Walton.

Thanks for your partnership in the gospel.

Mark.

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Day off Monday

3rd May 2026 Fifth Sunday of EASTER

8am Holy Communion

10am Service of the Word with Baptism

11.15am Holy Communion

4pm Afternoon Service

FOLLOW THIS LINK TO WATCH LIVE SUNDAY SERVICES

(<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCwcjEcekKr6h05Hid2EJ6nw>)

Please select the 'Live' tab.

10.30am Communion Wed 6th May

Readings & Prayers

Prayers For our Church

This Week's Bible Readings: Romans 1:18-32 and Mark 1:16-18.

Church Focus: SCHOOLS MINISTRIES. Assemblies etc (Cleves, Oatlands and Preschool). Teachers and the school communities Mark: School Governor at Cleves. **MUSIC MINISTRIES:** Choir, Organist and the 4pm Music group.

Rosie on Cello, Folo on Guitar & Rose on Piano.

We remember our Mission Partners: The Bible Society, The Leprosy Mission, Rentstart and the Foodbank.

World: Pray for: Break through the barriers that set people apart and the suspicion that makes them walk alone. We especially remember Syria, the Middle East, Sudan, Ukraine, and so many other places.

We pray for the sick in our parish: We ask that you have mercy on all who suffer in body, mind or spirit. Restore them to the fullness of life, that they may serve you with joy and thankfulness. Especially remembering all who suffer from mental ill-health and are victims of abuse and discrimination.

Those recently departed: Peter Fleming (Ros's brother), Bishop Andrew Watson, Wally Cooper, Lesley Chan and Peter Goodall. We give thanks for the love and life of those recently departed and pray for their family and friends during this time of loss: These prayers, those said aloud, and those said in the stillness of our hearts, we commend to you in our Lord Jesus' name.

From the Memorial Book at their year's mind: Private Hugh Montgomerie, Archibald Butler, Rosamond Bazely, Robin Broadbent, Florence Williams, Eric Lambard, Kathy Burgess and Arthur Benham.

Please pray for: Freddie and George and their family, as they prepare for baptism on Sunday 3rd May at 10am.



Post Easter Mission in Walton and Oatlands Prayer meeting 6.30pm 2nd Sunday at St Johns, Walton.

Oatlands Village Fayre Sat 9th May 12.30-4.30pm. We will be having a cake stall and a children's craft stall. **Please could you donate:** An hour to do a shift on the cake stall? A cake, homemade or shop-bought? An hour to help set up and take down the stalls? Please see the sign-up sheets at the back of

the church. Thank You.

Sun 10th May St Mary's APCM - after the 10am service. APCM Reports are now available from the back of the Church and on our website.

Sun 10-Sat 16th May Christian Aid Week. There will collection envelopes at the back of the Church if you wish to donate. **Sun 17th May Walton and Oatlands Mission celebration** at St Mary, Walton 6.30pm.

Sat 6th June 3pm Classical Summer Concert at SMO. Suggested donation of £10. Refreshments available during the interval. **Sun 7th June 'Bring and Share' lunch** after the morning service - Mark (and Lorna) will share their journey of faith ('Really helpful and engaging, explains a lot 'Harriet').

Thurs 18th June 8pm Pub Night 8pm at the Oatlands Chaser.

Sun 5th July BBQ 12-2.30pm £10pp U12'S free. In the hall in case of rain. **Share food, conversation, and friendship at our Annual Community BBQ.** This gathering brings together neighbours, families, and church members to enjoy a relaxed afternoon of good food and simple hospitality. Advance booking helps us plan catering, seating, and activities. **Everyone is welcome-** whether you worship at St Mary Oatlands, curious about our community or just fancy a burger! Use QR Code on poster or follow the link to book.

<https://www.zeffy.com/en-GB/ticketing/annual-community-bbq>

Please use the sign-up sheet at the back of the church if you can donate a **side dish/salad.**

Sat 11th July St Mary's Vision Morning 9-1pm with David Senior from the Diocese.

Could you help a local person to get to Sunday worship? If you could offer a lift or push a wheelchair user to church on an occasional basis please contact the parish office. Thank You.