



& ST MARK'S NETHER KELLET



The Link
Sunday, 26th March, 2023
Fifth Sunday of Lent

St Mark's 9am - Morning Prayer
Holy Trinity 10.30am - Holy Communion

HYMNS:

- 53** Come wounded healer
9 A Man there lived in Galilee
306 Such Love
326 The Spirit lives to set us free

COLLECT:

Gracious Father, you gave up your Son out of love for the world: lead us to ponder the mysteries of his passion, that we may know eternal peace through the shedding of our Saviour's blood, Jesus Christ our Lord. **All: Amen.**

GOSPEL:

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to **John**.
All: Glory to you, O lord.

John 11.1-45

Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. Mary was the one who anointed the Lord with perfume and wiped his feet with her hair; her brother Lazarus was ill. So the sisters sent a message to Jesus, 'Lord, he whom you love is ill.' But when Jesus heard it, he said, 'This illness does not lead to death; rather it is for God's glory, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it.' Accordingly, though Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, after having heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was.

Then after this he said to the disciples, 'Let us go to Judea again.' The disciples said to him, 'Rabbi, the Jews were just now trying to stone you, and are you going there again?' Jesus answered, 'Are there not twelve hours of daylight? Those who walk during the day do not stumble, because they see the light of this world. But those who walk at night stumble, because the light is not in them.' After saying this, he told them, 'Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I am going there to awaken him.' The disciples said to him, 'Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will be all right.' Jesus, however, had been speaking about his death, but they thought that he was referring merely to sleep. Then Jesus told them plainly, 'Lazarus is dead. For your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him.' Thomas, who was called the Twin, said to his fellow-disciples, 'Let us also go, that we may die with him.'

When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb for four days. Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away, and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them about their brother. When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home. Martha said to Jesus, 'Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him.' Jesus said to her, 'Your brother will rise again.' Martha said to him, 'I know that

he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day.' Jesus said to her, 'I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?' She said to him, 'Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world.'

When she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary, and told her privately, 'The Teacher is here and is calling for you.' And when she heard it, she got up quickly and went to him. Now Jesus had not yet come to the village, but was still at the place where Martha had met him. The Jews who were with her in the house, consoling her, saw Mary get up quickly and go out. They followed her because they thought that she was going to the tomb to weep there. When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, 'Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.' When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. He said, 'Where have you laid him?' They said to him, 'Lord, come and see.' Jesus began to weep. So the Jews said, 'See how he loved him!' But some of them said, 'Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?'

Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. Jesus said, 'Take away the stone.' Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, 'Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead for four days.' Jesus said to her, 'Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?' So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upwards and said, 'Father, I thank you for having heard me. I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me.' When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, 'Lazarus, come out!' The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth, and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, 'Unbind him, and let him go.'

Many of the Jews therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what Jesus did, believed in him.

This is the Gospel of the Lord. **All: Praise to you, O Christ.**

PRAYERS:

We pray for our communities and in particular those who live on: St Michael's Grove, St Michael's Lane, and St Michael's Close.

We pray for those who are sick or in need: Lesley, Keith, Peter, Helen, Jenny, Roz & Katie.

We hold before God June Jeremy, who has recently died, and pray for her family and friends.

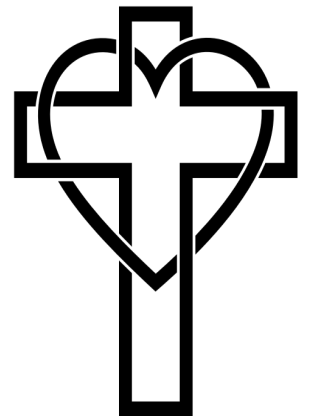
From our book of remembrance, we remember in prayer: Annie Cowperthwaite, Robin Foster(Priest), Kathleen Muriel Parnell, John Bidder (Priest), Simon Mark Edwards, Denis Holmes, William Leslie Rigg, John Mather, John Balmer and Kathleen Fielding Briggs.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER:

Lord Jesus Christ, you have taught us that what we do for the least of our brothers and sisters we also do for you: give us the will to be the servant of others as you were the servant of all, and gave up your life and died for us, but are alive and reign, now and for ever. **All: Amen.**

Notices and Announcements:

- ★ **Each evening through Lent; 6.30 - 6.45pm on Zoom, join us for "Lenten Meditation"**. See the Holy Trinity webpage for the [booklet](#), and a link here for the [zoom call](#) .
- ★ **Church Spring Clean:** Help is needed for our annual Deep Clean of church. Men for the high level brush cleaning on Friday 30th from 6pm and everyone for Saturday 1 April from 9.30am. Refreshments will be provided! Contact Rob Daunt on robdaunt@parishbls.co.uk
- ★ **Thank you** to everyone who has made soup served or attended the Lenten soup lunches. **Wednesday 30th March is the last Lenten soup lunch before a donation will be sent to Morecambe Food Bank.** We will continue to collect items of much needed food.



✚ Our Upcoming Services and Events ✚

Sunday, 26th March, 6.30pm: Youth Cafe, Slyne With Hest Church Hall.

Wednesday, 29th March, 10am: Wednesday Communion Service, Holy Trinity.

Wednesday, 29th March, 12pm: Lenten Lunch, Holy Trinity.

Wednesday, 29th March, 7.30pm: Easter Choir Practice, Holy Trinity

Thursday, 30th March, 7.30pm: Prayer Course, Holy Trinity.

Friday, 31st March, 9.30am: Shining Stars, Christchurch URC

Sunday, 2nd April: Palm Sunday

Sunday, 2nd April, 9am: Palm Sunday Service, St Mark's

Sunday, 2nd April, 10.30am: Palm Sunday Communion Service, Holy Trinity and on Zoom

Sunday, 2nd April, 6.30pm: Christian Seder Meal, Christchurch URC.

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