



Sunday 21st April 2024

## The Fourth Sunday of Easter

You are most welcome.

A message to new visitors is found on page 3.  
Our order of service begins on page 5.

**8:00am Holy Communion** (*Book of Common Prayer*)

Celebrant: The Rector

**10:30am Parish Eucharist** (*Common Worship*)

Celebrant and Preacher: The Rector

Setting: 'A People's Mass', *Dom Gregory Murray*  
with 'The Coventry Gloria', *Peter Jones*

Music at Communion:

'The Lamb',

*John Tavener*

Postlude: '282: Faithful shepherd, feed me'

'Le Réjouissance' (from 'Royal Fireworks Music'),  
*G F Handel*

### For your prayers

**At This Time**

Carolyn Bower, Baby Dylan Andrew Brooks, Gillian Kullman, Cheto Perez, Peter Strudwick, The King, The Princess of Wales, the bereaved, and those suffering during warfare

**Recently Departed  
Year's Mind**

Jan Burlison-Rush

Roy Leonard Prett, Elsie Florence Gibson, Helen Mary Kennett, Sheila Willis, Pat Alt, Caryl Howard Palmer, Michael James Fielder, Joan Mary Fuller, Evelyn Lucy Patterson, Peter William Kullman, John Stuart Patterson

# Reflection for the week

The Reverend Robin Bendall

So, here we are, the day has arrived. The London Marathon is underway and, as expected, a great number of our fellows are speeding around the course as we sit here and await eagerly for its safe conclusion.

We are very much still in the season of Easter and it will continue for some little time yet. We move from the somewhat arduous time of Lent into Easter Week, and the season continues and we wonder when or if it will ever end. Surely the season ends with Whitsun, but does it really end then? The truth is, the ethos and impetus of Easter will never end... and neither should it!

Jesus reminds us that He sacrificed Himself. He is the Good Shepherd and He does die for His flock, leaving us in awe and wonder in His wake. We are reminded that salvation will only come to us through God, admiring Him and following His way to the very best of our ability. But, is this now our only challenge? John is very clear in his opinion. Yes, we must love God (all three of Him) but we must all set out to sacrifice ourselves in the service of the folk who surround us micro- or macro-cosmically - whether they are our immediate friend, neighbour

or someone we may help in a far flung corner of the our global village. This is a real challenge of resilience, this is the real marathon; this is the marathon God has undertaken. It does not last but one spring-like morning in April. It lasts for eternity.

As you will know from your own experience, training for a marathon is hard. Physically and mentally demanding. Much is sacrificed - time, good food, time with friends, good wine, and the list goes on. Competition is fierce. There is real determination to beat your time and the other competitors. And yet, amongst all this speed, sweat and tears, you see so many acts of selfless sacrifice among the runners. Some have surrendered their own success to put the arm of a struggling person around their neck and support them to the finishing line. Some will stop and help another when they fall. Suddenly, we see an image of how it ought to be, and we know it is right.

We have encountered this notion before. Let us join in, let us love God, let us love and serve one another and let us hold hands with Our Lord Jesus in His marathon to eternity and beyond.

# New to St Clements?

Welcome! We're delighted that you're here

**T**here has been a place of Christian prayer on this site for more than 1,000 years. All are welcome at our services - whatever your background and whatever your faith.

Many of the words of our service can be found from page five of this booklet. Feel free to join in with the words in bold, and to stand, kneel, or sit as you feel able and comfortable. Don't worry about getting it 'right', we're all learning to pray!

The service will start with notices and a hymn. We then bring to mind the times we've not loved God, our neighbours, and ourselves fully. Though it can be uncomfortable admitting we are sinners, we want to be honest with God (and ourselves) that we're not perfect. We can trust that God is utterly loving and forgiving.

A series of readings from scripture follows, and then the sermon, in which the preacher attempts to break open the scriptures and apply them to our lives today.

We pray for the needs of the Church and world, and then the altar is prepared. A collection will be taken, as 'giving' is an important part of

our Christian lives, but don't worry if you're unable to contribute as a visitor.

The priest leads the Eucharistic Prayer - the prayer of thanksgiving - during which we offer bread and wine to God, and He transforms it into the Body and Blood of Christ.

All baptised Christians are welcome to receive Holy Communion (it's fine to only receive the Body or Blood if you prefer. For reasons of hygiene please don't dip the wafer into the chalice). Or do come forward holding this booklet to receive a blessing. **If you need a gluten-free wafer please let someone at the door know before the service.**

We share refreshments (behind the organ, where toilets can also be found), please do join us.

The Church is open daily for peace and prayer. If you'd like to know more about our worship or faith, do talk to people in the congregation or one of the priests. You can also visit our website, [www.stclementschurchsandwich.org.uk](http://www.stclementschurchsandwich.org.uk)

# Music at 10:30am today

The choir sing two pieces this Sunday very much associated with the good shepherd theme. The first is more usually associated with Christmas. The Lamb is a short piece written in 1982 by the British composer John Tavener (1944–2013). It is a setting of music to the William Blake poem “The Lamb” from Blake’s collection of poems Songs of Innocence and of Experience (1789). It is one of Tavener’s best-known works. Written for unaccompanied SATB choir, the music is minimalistic and combines chromaticism with more conventional harmony. The poem draws on religious symbolism, primarily the Agnus Dei and the concept of Jesus as the Lamb of God. It is followed by the more conventional Victorian hymn “Faithful shepherd, feed me in the pastures green”, drawing on the

need for the Lord as a shepherd to help us all through our lives.

The outgoing voluntary is a movement from Handel’s Royal Fireworks Suite – “La Rejouissance” – “The Rejoicing! The Music for the Royal Fireworks is a suite in D major for wind instruments composed in 1749 under contract of George II of Great Britain for the fireworks in London’s Green Park on 27 April 1749. The music celebrates the end of the War of the Austrian Succession and the signing of the Treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle (Aachen) in 1748. A bright and joyous piece.

*Material from Common Worship included in this booklet is © The Archbishops’ Council 2000. Any hymns reproduced in accordance with a CCLI Licence, #209707.*

Joseph Gelineau

Antiphon

The Lord\_\_ is my Shep - herd, no - thing shall I want. He



leads me by safe\_\_ paths, no - thing shall I fear.



# Order of Service

## The Gathering

*Notices are given before the service.  
Stand to sing the opening hymn,  
number 102 (omitting verse 2).*

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!

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.

## Confessing our Sins

*The Celebrant introduces a period of silence in which all call to mind their sins. Then all kneel or sit.*

Most merciful God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, we confess that we have sinned in thought, word and deed. We

have not loved you with our whole heart. We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves. In your mercy forgive what we have been, help us to amend what we are, and direct what we shall be; that we may do justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with you, our God. Amen.

*The Celebrant pronounces the forgiveness of sins. All stand. The Gloria is sung, the congregation singing parts in bold.*

Glory to God, glory in the highest, peace to his people, peace on earth. **Glory to God, glory in the highest, peace to his people, peace on earth.**

Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father.

**Glory to God, glory in the highest, peace to his people, peace on earth.**

We worship you, **glory in the highest, give you thanks, glory in the highest,**

praise you for your glory. **Glory to God, glory in the highest, peace to his people, peace on earth.**

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, **have mercy on us**. You are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer, **receive our prayer**.

Glory to God, glory in the highest, peace to his people, peace on earth. **Glory to God, glory in the highest, peace to his people, peace on earth**.

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 glory of God the Father.

**Glory to God, glory in the highest, peace to his people, peace on earth. Amen. Amen.**

*The Celebrant says:*

Let us pray: Risen Christ, faithful shepherd of your Father's sheep: teach us to hear your voice and to follow your command, that all your people may be gathered into one flock, to the glory of God the Father.. **Amen.**

### **The Scriptures**

*All sit. Acts 4:5-12* The next day their rulers, elders, and scribes assembled in Jerusalem, with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. When they had made the prisoners

stand in their midst, they inquired, 'By what power or by what name did you do this?' Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, 'Rulers of the people and elders, if we are questioned today because of a good deed done to someone who was sick and are asked how this man has been healed, let it be known to all of you, and to all the people of Israel, that this man is standing before you in good health by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead. This Jesus is "the stone that was rejected by you, the builders; it has become the cornerstone."

There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved.'

This is the Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

*The Choir lead the singing of the Psalm. All are invited to join in the repeated antiphon, the music is on page 4.*

**The Lord is my Shepherd, nothing shall I want; He leads me by safe paths, nothing shall I fear.**

*The Lord is my Shepherd, there is nothing I shall want. Fresh and green are the pastures where he*

*gives me repose. Near restful waters he leads me, to revive my drooping spirit.*

**The Lord is my Shepherd, nothing shall I want; He leads me by safe paths, nothing shall I fear.**

*He guides me along the right path; He is true to his name. If I should walk in the valley of darkness no evil will I fear. You are there with your crook and your staff; With these you give me comfort.*

**The Lord is my Shepherd, nothing shall I want; He leads me by safe paths, nothing shall I fear.**

*You have prepared a banquet for me in the sight of my foes. My head you have anointed with oil; My cup is overflowing.*

**The Lord is my Shepherd, nothing shall I want; He leads me by safe paths, nothing shall I fear.**

*Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me all the days of my life. In the Lord's own house shall I dwell for ever and ever.*

**The Lord is my Shepherd, nothing shall I want; He leads me by safe paths, nothing shall I fear.**

*1 John 3:16-end* We know love by this, that he laid down his life for

us—and we ought to lay down our lives for one another. How does God's love abide in anyone who has the world's goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help?

Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action. And by this we will know that we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts before him whenever our hearts condemn us; for God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before God; and we receive from him whatever we ask, because we obey his commandments and do what pleases him.

And this is his commandment, that we should believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. All who obey his commandments abide in him, and he abides in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit that he has given us.

This is the Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

*We sing hymn number 459. Turn to face the Book of the Gospels as it moves to the centre of the nave. 'Alleluia' is sung.*

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.** Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to John. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

*John 10:11-18* 'I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away—and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father.'

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

*A sermon is preached.*

## The Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

## The Intercessions & Peace

*Kneel or sit to pray. The following response may be used:* Lord, in your mercy hear our prayer

*At the end:* Merciful Father, accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

*Stand for the Peace* The peace of the Lord be always with you. **And also with you.**

*As the altar is prepared, and a collection taken, we sing hymn 457.*

### The Eucharistic Prayer

*The Celebrant prays over the offerings, and all respond Amen.*

The Lord is here. **His Spirit is with us.**

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.**

*The Celebrant prays the Preface, leading into:*

**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 in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest. *All kneel or sit***

All glory be to you, our heavenly Father, who, in your tender mercy, gave your only Son our Saviour Jesus Christ to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption; who made there by his one oblation of himself once offered a full, perfect and sufficient sacrifice, oblation and satisfaction for the sins of the whole world; he instituted, and in his holy gospel commanded us to continue, a perpetual memory

of his precious death until he comes again.

Hear us, merciful Father, we humbly pray, and grant that, by the power of your Holy Spirit, we receiving these gifts of your creation, this bread and this wine, according to your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ's holy institution, in remembrance of his death and passion, may be partakers of his most blessed body and 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, Lord and heavenly Father, in remembrance of the precious death and passion, the mighty resurrection and glorious ascension of your dear Son Jesus Christ, we offer you through him this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving.

Grant that by his merits and death, and through faith in his blood, we and all your Church may receive forgiveness of our sins and all other benefits of his passion. Although we are unworthy, through our manifold sins, to offer you any sacrifice, yet we pray that you will accept this the duty and service that we owe. Do not weigh our merits, but pardon our offences, and fill us all who share in this holy communion with your grace and heavenly blessing; through Jesus Christ our Lord, by whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory be yours, almighty Father, for ever and ever.

*All say boldly:* **Amen.**

### Preparation for Communion

**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.**

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ. **Though we are many, we are one body, because we all share in one bread.**

**Jesus, lamb of God, have mercy on us. Jesus, bearer of our sins, have mercy on us. Jesus, redeemer of the world, grant us peace.**

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

### Holy Communion

*Sidespeople will indicate when to move for Holy Communion. All who are baptised are welcome to receive Communion, or do bring this booklet with you to indicate that you wish to receive a blessing instead.*

*After all have received Holy Communion, Stand as the Celebrant says* Merciful Father, you gave your Son Jesus Christ to be the good shepherd, and in his love for us to lay down his life and rise again: keep us always under his protection, and give us grace to follow in his steps; 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.

Going out into the World

*We sing hymn 376.*

Alleluia! Christ is risen! **He is risen indeed, alleluia!**

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

*The Celebrant blesses and dismisses the congregation.*

Go in the peace of Christ. Alleluia! Alleluia! **Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

*The organ postlude is part of our act of worship, please remain quiet.*

*If you are able, do please stay for refreshments after the service - served in The Sunley Room (behind the organ)*

**Sandwich Infant School**

Sandwich Infant School are facing a large deficit of around £30,000, and running a fundraising campaign across our town.

Next week we will be collecting items for them, to help bridge their financial difficulties. Any donations of the following would be much appreciated:

Toilet roll

Hand gel

Paper hand towels

Cleaning cloths

*(both jay and microfibre)*

We will also take a cash collection, in order to purchase some other items that they have requested.

More information, and the chance to donate online, may be found at: <https://www.crowdfunder.co.uk/p/help-bridge-sandwich-infant-schools-funding-gap/backers#start>

# Parish Notices and Events

*Please send any news or notices for a Sunday booklet to the Parish Office before noon on the Wednesday preceding.*



The closed churchyard has provided a glorious show of spring flowers this year. From the moment the first snowdrops appeared in early January we have been blessed by a procession of early spring blooms with their full spectrum of colours. The snowdrops shared the churchyard with crocuses and daffodils and as they began to fade in April they were replaced by anemones, primroses and tulips. At the moment alkanet, bluebells, borage and wild garlic are in full bloom nestling beneath the trees whilst above them the air is filled with pink and white cherry blossom. Throughout these early months, initially unnoticed, the Queen Anne's Lace has been steadily growing and staking its claim as the pride of our churchyard. It will not be too long before the clouds of tiny white flowers will burst forth and permeate every prospect of St Clement's.

Our work on recording all of the inscriptions on the tombs and gravestones in the closed churchyard is almost complete. The next phase of this work is to produce a guided walk covering about forty graves which will include short biographies of those whose resting places are included. The content of this guided walk is drawn from a much more detailed collection of information about the residents of Sandwich buried in the churchyard. Details on how to access this information will be available in due course.

Meanwhile in the St Clement's Apiary Garden, our pollinator-friendly plants have been weeded in anticipation of

our two new colonies of honeybees arriving on Saturday 20th. In addition, two hives have been cleaned and painted in anticipation of these new tenants. This is always a nervous time for our bee custodians as there is no guarantee that the bees will settle or remain in their new homes. As wild creatures, the honeybees may just decide to decamp to a different home and we can only watch as they disappear over the horizon! During the winter We have taken the opportunity to write and publish a second version of our bee booklet. Copies will be placed in the bee booklet box in the apiary garden from Sunday 21st April. We have also used the wax produced by our bees to produce some St Clement's Tea Lights. Sets of three together with an amber tea light holder will be available in the coming weeks.

If you would like to know more about our work in the churchyard, we provide regular updates and photographs on our Facebook page 'St Clement's Churchyard Rediscovered'. If you would like to volunteer to help develop and maintain the churchyard, please e-mail [barry.brooks1@me.com](mailto:barry.brooks1@me.com) for information.

St Clement's Church is very fortunate to nestle at the centre of such a beautiful, verdant site. When you pass through, please take every opportunity to pause, reflect and relax rejoicing in the knowledge that there is so much beauty and life to be found within our churchyard.

*Barry Brooks*

## Church Welcoming in 2024

For more than thirty years St Clement's has been stewarded during the summer months to welcome visitors and help them explore our ancient church.

The current scheme, Church Welcome, starts on 1st May through to 30th September. The church is of course open to all throughout the year from 10.00 am to 4.00 pm, and the Welcomers choose an hour (or two) that is convenient for them to steward each week.

It is a very rewarding way of spending a quiet hour and welcoming people from literally all over the world ( please check the visitors' book). Our team has, since Covid, become much reduced, and

I would be very pleased to give more information to anyone interested in filling one of the many empty slots on the timetable.

I shall put a provisional timetable in the porch showing what is available. If a new volunteer would like to know more about the church and its history I would be very happy to give them an informal tour.

David Senior 01304 612782  
david.senior6@btinternet.com

-

## Electoral Roll Revision

If you regularly worship at St Clement's and wish to be on the Electoral Roll (church membership list), or are already on the roll but wish to make any changes, please apply to our electoral roll officer:

Ann Trim  
anntrim@sky.com

# Parish Directory

## PARISH OFFICE

St Clement's Hall,  
Church Street St Clement's,  
Sandwich. CT13 9EH.

020 3089 4745 - please leave a message with BT Callminder.  
stclementssandwich@outlook.com  
www.stclementschurchsandwich.org.uk

## THE RECTOR

The Reverend Sebastian Hamilton  
fr.sjm.hamilton@gmail.com + 01304 746033

## CHURCHWARDENS

Diane Coller + lodge.farm@tiscali.co.uk + 01304 619403  
Howard Evans + howard.evans@icloud.com + 01304 449961

## HON. SECRETARY

Val Oates + oatesrvc@gmail.com

## HON. TREASURER

Steve Kirkpatrick + steve.kirkpatrick046@btinternet.com

## DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

Julian Sampson + sampson@supanet.com

# Services and Events this week

**Monday 22nd April - Feria (no feast)**

**Tuesday 23rd April - Feast of St George**

**Wednesday 24th April - Feast of St Mellitus**

10:00am Holy Communion

**Thursday 25th April - Feast of St Mark**

**Friday 26th April - Feria**

10:00am Coffee Pot (*Parish Hall*)

**Saturday 27th April - Feria**

**Sunday 28th April - Fifth Sunday of Easter**

8:00am Holy Communion (*Book of Common Prayer*)

*Celebrant: The Rector*

10:30am Parish Eucharist (*Common Worship*)

*Celebrant: The Rector*

*Preacher: Derek Kirkaldie, Reader*

[www.stclementschurchsandwich.org.uk](http://www.stclementschurchsandwich.org.uk)

Please take this booklet home with you to read and recycle