



# WELCOME TO BRADWELL CHURCH

WELCOME TO ST LAWRENCE

Stantonbury Ecumenical Partnership (Baptist, Church of England, Methodist, URC)

Following Jesus Sharing his Love since 1223AD

## Fourth Sunday of Easter 21st April

**10.30am Morning Worship** (led by the Rev John Beazley)

**Readings:** Luke 24:13-31 (p.1002);

**Service officer:** Andrew Vincent & Olive; **Reader:** Marjorie; **Prayers:** Karen; **Music:** Diana; **Tea:** Beth;

This Sunday guest minister the **Rev John Beazley** will lead us in worship, please give him our usual warm welcome

## Fifth Sunday of Easter 28th April

**10.30am Holy Communion** (led by the Rev Canon Chris Bull)

**Readings:** Acts 8:26-40 (p.1040); John 15:1-8 (p.1022);

**Service officer:** Carol Wood & Ping; **Reader:** Marjorie; **Prayers:** Carol; **Music:** Beryl; **Tea:** Ghislaine;



St Lawrence is a family friendly church; Children are very welcome

### Reflection by John

Luke's narrative of the Emmaus Road is great 'theatre'! Here is a scenario wherein everyone [including us] knows just who the stranger is. Everyone, that is, except the two apostles who meet him. Then, with double irony, the stranger himself pretends to be ignorant of the very circumstances of his own death! So, the two travellers fail to recognise the stranger, even when Jesus talks about himself. [If this was a play by Agatha Christie, or even a pantomime, we would all be on the edge of our seats shouting, 'it's Jesus. It's Jesus. Look again.'] We each walk our own Emmaus Road. We too can fail to recognise Jesus when we meet him. If we would have it otherwise, we must look for him, with an open mind and our understanding informed.



## PRAYER POINTERS by Lesley

- For a positive outcome to the process of appointing new SEP ministers and for the SEP AGM on 25 April.
- For farmers struggling to work the land in adverse weather conditions.
- For peace not escalation of war, especially in the Middle East.
- For our new CMS Mission Partners as they visit the UK this month, especially for our time getting to know them next Sunday (28th).

**We pray** for all those recently bereaved and those remembering past bereavements at this time of year. May they know the peace and comfort of God's love.



**We pray for those in particular need**, including Ken Winterbottom; John Young; Clare Vincent; Paul Lund; John Hearn; Esther Squire; Paul Rushton; Lewis Kite; Gill Carey; and others known personally to us.

- To add prayers contact Beryl on 01908 321322.

Our **Mission Focus** in March is **Christian Solidarity Worldwide** (CSW), which supports those around the world facing injustice because of their religion or belief. See [csw.org.uk](http://csw.org.uk)

## HYMNS

**480** New Every Morning

**51** Be Thou my vision

**251** How sweet the name of Jesus

**159** Forth in thy name O Lord I go

## CHURCH THIS WEEK

**Wed** Gardening Club 10am; Bell ringing practice 7.45pm;

**Fri:** Ashes interment 2:30pm;

## NEWS & NOTICES

**Paul Smith** has returned safely

from his holiday and is now contactable.

**SEP** the SEP AGM is 7.30pm on Thursday, 25th April at Christ Church, Stantonbury. All members are welcome to attend.

**Food Donations** Thank you to everyone who has contributed to the Westcroft Food Larder. If anyone has carrier bags they no longer need, these are also useful



please for bagging up the food

**Bring & Share** Our new CMS mission partners (C and V and their children) serve in Spain and North Africa to share the gospel with Spanish and Arab people, and to support Christians in the Middle East

and North Africa. Their latest link letter is on the Tower noticeboard. They are visiting the UK this month which gives us a good opportunity to meet them - we're looking forward to them being with us on **Sunday 28th April** - don't forget our bring-and-share-lunch after the service that day!

**Membership** our membership secretary Janet has been faithfully fulfilling this role for many years and would now like to step down. If anyone is interested to take this role, please let Alan Potter know or email the church on [bradwellchurch@gmail.com](mailto:bradwellchurch@gmail.com)

### **This week in times past**

**St George's Day** April 23rd, the patron Saint of England. Saint George died in 303AD, he was a

soldier of Cappadocian Greek origins, and a member of the Praetorian Guard for the Roman emperor Diocletian. He was sentenced to death for refusing to recant his Christian faith. He is mentioned by the venerable Bede, Alfred the Great, Richard the first, Edward III, Henry V & made patron by Edward VI in 1552 replacing English saint, St Edmund

whose symbol is the white dragon. It is also the day on which William Shakespeare was born and died.



### **PRAYERS & READINGS**

Suggested readings for the week

**Mon:** Jer 31:10-17; Rev 7:9-17

**Tue:** Job 31:13-23; Matthew 7:1-12

**Wed:** Gen 2:4b-9; 1 Cor 15:35-49

**Thur:** Prov 28:3-28; Mark 10:17-31

**Fri:** Eccl 12:1-8; Romans 6:1-11

**Sat:** 1Chro 29:10-13; Luke 24:13-35

**Prayer** 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**

## HOUSEGROUPS

**Sun** - Diana 01908319405

**Mon** - First Monday of the Month  
Beryl 01908321322

**Thur** zoom Grayham01908318418

**Thur** (eve) - Rod 01908319295

**Thur** (day) Denise 01908314378

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- St George's Day 23rd April
- Bring-and-share lunch 28th Apr
- Whit Sunday 19th May
- Trinity Sunday 26th May

## PAUSE FOR THOUGHT

 from Mike

There is a story behind every person. There is a reason why they're the way they are. Think about that before you judge someone

Anon

## QUIZ

 set by Mike

Q. Who said, "I did not write half of what I had seen, for I knew I would not be believed"

Answer: Marco Polo



## COLLECT OF THE DAY

Almighty God, whose Son Jesus Christ is the resurrection and the life: raise us, who trust in him, from the death of sin to the life of righteousness, that we may seek those things which are above, where he reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

**Amen**

The Rev Dr Paul Smith  
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Paul is on Holiday

## BRADWELL CHURCH

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 [bradwellchurch@gmail.com](mailto:bradwellchurch@gmail.com)

 [facebook.com/BradwellChurchMK](https://facebook.com/BradwellChurchMK)

## CHRISTIAN SOLIDARITY WORLDWIDE

 from Beryl

**Pastor Lorenzo** of Cuba was violently arrested in July 2021 while peacefully protesting. CSW have documented evidence and raised his case with experts at the UN who have now said his arrest contravenes nine different Articles of the UN Declaration of Human Rights. **This confirms that there was no justifiable basis for his arrest, and Pastor Lorenzo should not be in prison.** This is a significant breakthrough. The UN is also calling for reparations to be made and a full investigation into his unjust detention. Let us give thanks for the progress in Pastor Lorenzo's case and that the Cuban government put the recommendations of the UN Working Group into action - releasing Pastor Lorenzo immediately and unconditionally.