

THE ANGLICAN PARISH OF
ST MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS,
CHRISTCHURCH



The Easter Vigil
19 April 2025

From the Vicar

Dear Friends,

Christus surréxit! - Surréxit vere, allelúja

"Christ is risen - He is risen indeed. Alleluia!" This ancient phrase echoes the greeting of the angel to Mary Magdalene, to Mary the mother of James, and to Joseph, as they arrived at the sepulchre to anoint the body of Jesus: "He is not here; for he has risen, as he said!". And today it becomes our clarion call as we celebrate the Resurrection of Jesus Christ. For indeed this acclamation is not just empty words of praise, but a call to a whole new way of being. We believe that Christ's resurrection is a pivotal point in the history of the world where God breaks through in order that we may have life, and life abundant. However, with all the good news that the resurrection brings there is also the reality of our hurting world. And so, today's great acclamation that Jesus is risen is not just for ourselves but to be shared with those we meet along the way. But often we don't have the confidence to do this and like those early male disciples we keep it to ourselves. That's why the presence of those first women at the empty tomb is so important. They give us a model of how we should live out the Easter message. They experience the power of the empty tomb and without delay rush to spread this good news to all those who would listen. And as we know, some believed and others doubted. But the call was the same. As we experience the power of Christ in our Liturgy and the Eucharist this Easter may we, like those first women disciples, be empowered to proclaim boldly, He is Risen, He is Risen indeed, Alleluia!

Easter blessings,



Fr Jordan

THE EASTER VIGIL

The Service of Light

Celebrant: Fr Jordan Greatbatch

Organ: Paul Ellis

Chamber Choir: Courtney Hickmott, Matthew Harris, Cameron Davis,
Rebecca Harris, Theo Molenaar, Sea-am Thompson, Olivia Webb

Sidespeople: Robert Maclagan, Jane Evans

The congregation gathers outside the north door (Oxford Terrace) for the blessing of the new fire and the traditional ceremonies of the Paschal Candle.

Let us proceed in peace. **In the name of Christ. Amen.**

All enter the darkened church. The candle is carried in. Each time the procession stops, the priest sings and congregation respond:

Priest: Christ our Light. (*genuflect*)

Thanks be to God.

The Exultet: *All stand for the Easter Proclamation:*

Matthew Harris

Rejoice, heavenly powers.

Rejoice, heavenly powers! Sing, choirs of angels!

O universe, dance around God's throne!

Jesus Christ, our King, is risen!

Sound the victorious trumpet of salvation!

Rejoice, O earth, in glory, revealing the splendour of your creation,

Radiant in the brightness of your triumphant King!

Christ has conquered! Now his life and glory fill you!

Darkness vanishes for ever!

Rejoice, O Mother Church! Exult in glory!

The risen Saviour, our Lord of life, shines upon you!

Let all God's people sing and shout for joy.

The Lord be with you.

Lift up your hearts:

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right and good that with full hearts and minds and voices we should praise you, Father Almighty, the unseen God, through your only Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who has saved us by his death, paid the price of Adam's sin, and reconciled us once again to you.

The Lord bless you.

We lift them to the Lord.

It is right to give thanks and praise.

Glory to you for ever.

For this is the Passover feast, when Christ the true Lamb of God is slain, whose blood consecrates the homes of all the faithful.

Glory to you for ever.

This is the night when you first saved our ancestors, freeing Israel from her slavery, and leading her safely through the sea.

Glory to you for ever.

This is the night when Jesus Christ vanquished hell, broke the chains of death and rose triumphant from the grave.

Glory to you for ever.

This is the night when all who believe in him are freed from sin, restored to grace and holiness, and share the victory of Christ.

Glory to you for ever.

This is the night that gave us back what we had lost; beyond our deepest dreams you made even our sin a happy fault. **Glory to you for ever.**
 Most blessed of all nights, evil and hatred are put to flight and sin is washed away, lost innocence regained, and mourning turned to joy. **Glory to you for ever.**
 Night truly blessed, when hatred is cast out, peace and justice find a home, and heaven is joined to earth and all creation reconciled to you. **Glory to you for ever.**
 Therefore, heavenly Father, in this our Easter joy accept our sacrifice of praise, your Church's solemn offering. Grant that this Easter candle may make our darkness light. **Glory to you for ever.**

Dear Brothers and Sisters, now that we have begun our solemn vigil, let us listen with quiet hearts to the Word of God. Let us meditate on times past how God saved his people and in these, the last days, has sent us his Son as our redeemer. Let us pray that our God may complete this paschal work of salvation by the fullness of redemption.

(Sit)

Liturgy of the Word

Each reading is followed by sung verses, pause, then a collect.

Reading 1	Genesis 22:1-18	Johann Williams
Psalms 16	O give thanks to the Lord	
R:	What marvels the Lord has worked for us: indeed we are glad.	
Reading 2	Exodus 14: 10–end, 15:20-21	Rachel Watson
The Song of Moses	I will sing to the Lord (Exodus 15:1b-13, 17-18)	
Reading 3	Ezekiel 37: 1–14	Robert Maclagan
Psalms 104	Hear my prayer O Lord	
R:	What marvels the Lord has worked for us: indeed we are glad.	

Priest: Gloria in excelsis Deo *(sung)*

(stand)

As the Gloria begins, the bells are rung. The altar candles are lit, while all other lights come on and personal candles extinguished.

Gloria: A Festive Eucharist Noel Rawsthorne

**Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's people on earth.
 Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.
 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; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.
 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 Father.
 Amen.**

Eternal Giver of life and light, this holy night shines with the radiance of the risen Christ. Renew your Church with the Spirit given to us in baptism, that we may worship you in sincerity and truth, and shine as a light in the world; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Epistle: *(sit)*

Romans 6: 3–11

Margaret Maclagan

Do you not know that all of us who have been baptised into Christ Jesus were baptised into his death? Therefore we have been buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life.

For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. We know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be destroyed, and we might no longer be enslaved to sin. For whoever has died is freed from sin.

But if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. The death he died, he died to sin, once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church. **Thanks be to God.**

(stand)

Priest: Christ is risen. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

People: He is risen indeed. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Responsorial Psalm: 118

R. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

1. We give thanks to you, O Lord, for you are gracious and your love endures for ever. Let the house of Israel say: "God's love endures for ever." **R.**
2. The right hand of the Lord raises up, the right hand of the Lord does mighty things. I shall not die but live, and proclaim what the Lord has done. **R.**
3. I shall not die but live: and proclaim, what the Lord has done. **R.**
4. The stone which the builders rejected has become the head of the corner. This is the Lord's doing, and it is marvellous in our eyes. **R.**

The Lord be with you

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Luke ✕

The Lord bless you

Praise and Glory to God

Gospel:

Luke 24:1-12

Deacon Robert Jamieson

But on the first day of the week, at early dawn, they came to the tomb, taking the spices that they had prepared. They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, but when they went in, they did not find the body. While they were perplexed about this, suddenly two men in dazzling clothes stood beside them. The women were terrified and bowed their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, 'Why do you look for the living among the dead?'

He is not here, but has risen. Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee, that the Son of Man must be handed over to sinners, and be crucified, and on the third day rise again.' Then they remembered his words, and returning from the tomb, they told all this to the eleven and to all the rest.

Now it was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the other women with them who told this to the apostles. But these words seemed to them an idle tale, and they did not believe them. But Peter got up and ran to the tomb; stooping and looking in, he saw the linen cloths by themselves; then he went home, amazed at what had happened.

This is the Gospel of Christ. **Praise to Christ the Word.**

Sermon: Deacon Robert Jamieson

Ceremonies at the Font

Led by the Paschal Candle, clergy and servers proceed to the font. During this time the Cantor sings the Litany of the Saints. Personal candles are relit.

The Litany:

Lord, have mercy	Lord, have mercy
Christ, have mercy	Christ, have mercy
Lord, have mercy	Lord, have mercy
Holy Mary, Mother of God	Pray for us
....	Pray for us
All holy men and women	Pray for us
Lord, be merciful	Lord, save your people
....	Lord, save your people
By your gift of the Holy Spirit	Lord, save your people
Be merciful to us sinners	Lord, hear our prayer
By your grace, bless this font of rebirth	Lord, hear our prayer
Jesus, Son of the living God	Lord, hear our prayer
Christ, hear us	Christ, hear us
Lord Jesus, hear our prayer	Lord Jesus, hear our prayer.

The Thanksgiving over the Water

Priest:

The Lord is here: **God's Spirit is with us.**

Praise God who made heaven and earth: **Whose promise endures for ever.**

Father, you give us grace through sacramental signs, which tell us of the wonders of your unseen power. In baptism we use your gift of water, which you have made a rich symbol of the grace you give us in this sacrament.

At the very dawn of creation your Spirit breathed on the waters, making them the well-spring of all holiness. The waters of the great flood you made a sign of the waters of baptism, that make an end of sin and a new beginning of goodness. Through the waters of the Red Sea you led Israel out of slavery, to be an image of God's holy people, set free from sin by baptism.

In the waters of the Jordan your Son was baptised by John and anointed with the Spirit. Your Son willed that water and blood should flow from his side as he hung upon the cross. After his resurrection he told his disciples: "Go out and teach all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit."

Father, look now with love upon your Church, and unseal for her the fountain of baptism. By the power of the Spirit give to the water of this font the grace of your Son. You created us in your own likeness: cleanse us from sin in a new birth of innocence by water and the Spirit.

May all who are buried with Christ in baptism rise also to newness of life. United in Christ, with all the baptised in earth and heaven, we worship you, O God, in songs of everlasting praise:

**Blessing, honour and glory be yours, here and everywhere, now and for ever.
Amen.**

The Renewal of Baptismal Promises

Let us all renew our own baptismal covenant.

Do you renounce all evil influences and powers that rebel against God?

I renounce all evil.

Do you trust in Christ's victory which brings forgiveness, freedom, and life?

In faith I turn to Christ, my way, my truth, my life.

What is your faith?

I believe and trust in God the Father, maker and sustainer of all things; and in God the Son, my Saviour Jesus Christ; and in God the Holy Spirit, giver of life and truth. This is my faith.

Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?

I will, with God's help.

Will you forgive others as you are forgiven?

I will, with God's help.

Will you seek to love your neighbour as yourself, and strive for peace and justice?

I will, with God's help.

Will you accept the cost of following Jesus Christ in your daily life and work?

I will, with God's help.

With the whole Church will you proclaim, by word and action, the Good News of God in Christ?

I will, with God's help.

God our creator, the rock of our salvation, we thank you for our new birth by water and the Holy Spirit for the forgiveness of our sins, and for our fellowship in the household of faith with all those who have been baptised in your name; keep us faithful to the calling of our baptism, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The priest sprinkles the people with blessed water from the font. Personal candles are extinguished.

Jesus Christ is risen, Jesus Christ is risen, alleluia, alleluia. (sung)

The First Mass of the Resurrection

The Peace

The peace of Christ be always with you. **And also with you.**

E te whanau, we are the body of Christ. **By one spirit we were baptised into one body.**

Keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace: **Amen.**

We are bound by the love of Christ.

The Preparation of the Gifts

Offertory: Brenda Withell, Mary Stevenson

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation.

Through your goodness we have this bread to offer,
which earth has given and human hands have made.

It will become for us the bread of life. **Blessed be God for ever.**

By the mystery of this water and wine may we come to
share in the divinity of Christ,
who humbled himself to share in our humanity.

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation.

Through your goodness we have this wine to offer,
fruit of the vine and work of human hands.

It will become our spiritual drink. **Blessed be God for ever.**

Christ is the King! O friends rejoice;
brothers and sisters, with one voice
let the world know He is your choice.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

O Christian women, Christian men,
all the world over, seek again
the way disciples followed then.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

O magnify the Lord, and raise
anthems of joy and holy praise
for Christ's brave saints of ancient days.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Christ through all ages is the same:
place the same hope in His great name,
With the same faith His word proclaim.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

They with a faith for ever new
followed the King, and round him drew
thousands of servants brave and true.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Let love's unconquerable might
your scattered companies unite
in service to the Lord of light.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

So shall God's will on earth be done,
new lamps be lit, new tasks begun,
and the whole church at last be one.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Pray, sisters and brothers, that our sacrifice may be acceptable to God, the almighty One.

**May the Lord receive the sacrifice at your hands,
for the praise and glory of his name, for our good,
and the good of all his Church.**

Lord, accept the prayers and offerings of your people. With your help, may this Easter mystery of our redemption bring to perfection the saving work you have begun in us. We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord is here.
Lift up your hearts.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**God's Spirit is with us.
We lift them to the Lord.
It is right to offer thanks and praise.**

It is right indeed, it is our joy and our salvation, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, at all times and in all places to give you thanks and praise through Christ your only Son.

On this night above all we laud you yet more gloriously when Christ our Passover has been sacrificed.

For he is the true Lamb who has taken away the sins of the world; by dying, he has destroyed our death, and by rising restored our life.

Therefore with the faithful who rest in him, with angels and archangels and all the company of heaven, we proclaim your great and glorious name, for ever praising you and singing.....

Mass for 4 Voices:

Sanctus and Benedictus

William Byrd

Sanctus, sanctus, sanctus

Dominus Deus Sabaoth.

Pleni sunt caeli et terra gloria tua.

Hosanna in excelsis.

Benedictus qui venit

In nomine Domini.

Hosanna in excelsis.

All glory and thanksgiving to you, holy Father. Send your Holy Spirit, that these gifts of bread and wine which we receive may be to us the body and blood of Christ, and that we, filled with the Spirit's grace and power, may be renewed for the service of your kingdom.

On the night before he died, your Son Jesus Christ took bread; when he had given you thanks, he broke it, gave it to his disciples, and said: Take, eat, this is my body which is given for you; do this to remember me.

After supper he took the cup; when he had given you thanks, he gave it to them, and said: Drink this, all of you, for 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, to remember me.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

Glory to you, Lord Christ: your death we show forth; your resurrection we proclaim; your coming we await. Amen! Come, Lord Jesus.

Therefore, loving God, recalling your great goodness to us in Christ, his suffering and death, his resurrection and ascension, and looking for his coming in glory, we celebrate our redemption with this bread of life and this cup of salvation. Accept our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving which we offer through Christ, our great high priest.

United in Christ with all who stand before you in earth and heaven, we worship you,
O God, in songs of everlasting praise:

**Blessing, honour and glory be yours, here and everywhere, now and for ever.
Amen.**

Silence

The Communion

As Christ teaches us we pray:

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and for ever. Amen.**

Eucharistic Ministers: Margaret Maclagan, Rachel Watson

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

We who are many are one body, for we all share the one bread.

Mass for 4 Voices: Agnus Dei

William Byrd

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, miserere nobis.

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, miserere nobis.

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, dona nobis pacem.

Christ became our Paschal sacrifice.

Let us feast with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth, Alleluia

This is the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world.

Happy are we who are called to his supper.

**Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,
but only say the word and I shall be healed.**

For Communion, leave your seat by the side aisle and come down the central aisle. You are encouraged to use the hand sanitiser.

Communion Motet: Ave verum
This Joyful Eastertide

William Byrd
arr. Charles Wood

Let us pray. (*silence*)

God, the giver of all, we are nourished with your Easter sacraments. Fill us with the spirit of love, and unite us in faith, that we may show forth the glory of the resurrection to all the world. We ask this through Jesus Christ, the risen Lord. **Amen**

Solemn Blessing:

Christ is risen, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

He is risen indeed, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

May almighty God bless you on this solemn night of Easter, and may he protect you against all sin. **Amen.**

You have mourned for Christ's sufferings, may you share now in the glories of his resurrection. **Amen.**

You have been buried with him in baptism, may you know his healing power and come with joy to the feast which lasts for ever. **Amen.**

May the blessing of almighty God, the Father, the Son, ✠ and the Holy Spirit, be with you now and always. **Amen.**

The Mass is ended. Go now to love and serve the Lord. Go in peace, alleluia, alleluia., alleluia!

Amen. We go in the name of Christ, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Final Hymn: 118

The Lord is risen indeed!
Now is his work performed;
Now is the mighty Captive freed,
And death's strong castle stormed.

The Lord is risen indeed!
Then hell has lost his prey;
With him is risen the ransomed seed
To reign in endless day.

The Lord is risen indeed!
He lives, to die no more;
He lives, the sinner's cause to plead,
Whose curse and shame he bore.

Our thanks to the Chamber Choir:

Courtney Hickmott, Matthew Harris, Cameron Davis, Rebecca Harris, Theo Molenaar, Sea-am Thompson, Olivia Webb

Please join us for refreshments in the Parish Lounge.

Please pray for...

The Sick:

Heather Flavell, Charles Barltrop, Jamie McDermott, Terry & Betsy McKay.

Claire & John Preston, Lois Peters, Denis Coulter, Betty Mechen, Suzanne Keys, Ghislaine Brewer-Quirke, Lesta Smithson, Pamela Hindin-Whitewood, John Bertken, Peter Easterbrook, Anne Fenton, David & Sandra, Philip Souter, Deb Smith, Andrew Lawson.

Anniversaries: (Wed) Elisabeth Alberts (Fri) Margaret Stephenson, Patricia McNamara

THIS WEEK

NOTICES

EFTPOS is available by the North door if you wish to make a donation.

Meditation Group—Wednesday 12.00 noon in the church. Contact: Therese Aitchison 0212516282.

Pray the Rosary—Thursday 12.00 noon.

Inasmuch Basket—please continue to donate staple household groceries to support the work of the **City Mission**.

No Mass on Mondays

Due to Father Geoff being away there will be no Monday Mass on **Easter Monday** and from the **28 April - 26 May**. The mass on Mondays will return on the **2 June**.

Leave—Father Jordan and Deacon Robert will be on leave from **21 April**, returning to church on **27 April**. For any urgent matters during this period please contact the Wardens.

The Parish Office is closed from **18 April** and will reopen on **5 May**.

NEXT WEEK

The Second Sunday of Easter

27 April 2025

8:00 am Mass

Celebrant: Fr Peter Beck

Server: Hugh Munro

10.00 am Mass

Celebrant: Fr Peter Beck

Preacher: Margaret Maclagan

Servers:

SD: Carol Fraser

MC: Joshua Wilson Black

Th: Robert Calvert

Cr: Thomas Visakan

Ac: Hugh Munro, Georgia Caughey

First Reading:

Kate Churchill

Acts 5:27-32

Second Reading:

Robert Maclagan

Revelations 1:4-8

Gospel:

Margaret Maclagan

John 20:19-31

Eucharist Ministers: Carol Fraser, Jenny Daniels

Sides people:

Maria Light, Joy Coulter

Intercessions:

Fr Peter Williams

Offertory:

Brenda Withell, Mary Stevenson

Morning Tea:

Gail and Tim Chiswell

Sacristan:

Joshua Wilson Black

Sacristy:

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Livestream:

Jane Evans

Flowers:

Flower arranging team

Evensong Readers:

Taizé

Evensong Server:

Taizé

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St Michaels Churchwardens A/c no - 03-0855-0263594-000

Postal Address:

PO Box 4022, Christchurch Mail Centre, 8140

Health & Safety Regulations:

In an emergency, use the closest exit and assemble in the drop-off zone. In an earthquake, drop down and shelter behind or under a pew, covering your head. Follow instructions.

**The Anglican Parish of
St Michael and All Angels,
Christchurch**

This Sunday	Easter Sunday—20 April 2025
8.00 am	Said Mass
10.00 am	Festal Sung Mass
7.00 pm	Festal Evensong and Benediction
Monday	Monday in Easter Week
	No Mass
Tuesday	Tuesday in Easter Week
12.35 pm	Mass
Wednesday	Wednesday in Easter Week
12.00 pm	Meditation Group
12.35 pm	Mass
Thursday	Thursday in Easter Week
12.00 noon	Rosary Group
12.35 pm	Mass
Friday	Friday in Easter Week (ANZAC DAY)
12.35 pm	Mass
Saturday	Saturday in Easter Week
Next Sunday	Second Sunday of Easter—27 April 2025
8.00 am	Said Mass
10.00 am	Sung Mass
7.00 pm	Taizé

Online Services

facebook.com/SMAAChristchurch

Sunday	10.00 am	Solemn Mass
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