

Alleluia! Christ is risen **He is risen indeed Alleluia !**  
Praise the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ  
**He has given us new life and hope.**  
**He has raised Jesus from the dead.**  
God has claimed us as his own  
**He has brought us out of darkness.**  
**He has made us light to the world.**  
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### BLESSING

May Christ,  
who out of defeat brings new hope and a new future,  
fill you with his new life;  
and the blessing of God, Father Son and Holy Spirit  
be with you today and always. **Amen**

### PARISH PRAYER LIST

Canon Ken, Bishop-elect George, Joyce, Eddie, Johnny,  
Bobby, Adam & Hayley, Cora, Gwen, Audra, Sylvia, Adam

#### Senior members resident in care homes

Nan, Isabel, Leslie, Lillian, Tom, Sally, Ronnie, Kay

#### Remember all who have been bereaved

Especially the Adair family following the death of Bobby



#### PARISH PRAYER LINE – TEL: 07553404711 (New)

*Delight yourself in the LORD, and he will give you the desires of your heart.  
Commit your way to the LORD; trust in him, and he will act. Psalm 37:4,5*

***Please do not hesitate to contact Revd. Bobbie  
or Canon Ken by telephone or email.***

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St Aidan's Parish Church  
Enabling people to find a Living Faith in a Loving God by  
"Serving Christ in the Community"

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**12 April 2020 : Easter Day**

### THE EASTER GREETING

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

Lord Jesus, risen from the dead and alive for evermore  
Stand in our midst today as in the upper room;  
speak your peace to our hearts and minds;  
and send us out into the world as your witnesses,  
to the glory of your name. **Amen.** *(John Stott)*

**New every  
morning is  
God's  
love**



### COLLECT OF THE DAY:

Almighty God,  
through your only-begotten Son Jesus Christ  
you have overcome death and opened to us the gate of everlasting life:  
Grant that, as by your grace going before us  
you put into our minds good desires,  
so by your continual help we may bring them to good effect;  
through Jesus Christ our risen Lord  
who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

## THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

### PSALM 118: 1-2, 14-24

*Early Christians found in the words of this psalm a wonderful way of describing the significance of Jesus. He was the rejected stone whom God made the cornerstone of a brand-new temple*

Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his love endures forever.

Let Israel say: "His love endures forever."

The LORD is my strength and my defence;  
he has become my salvation.

Shouts of joy and victory  
resound in the tents of the righteous:

"The LORD's right hand has done mighty things!

The LORD's right hand is lifted high;  
the LORD's right hand has done mighty things!"

I will not die but live,

and will proclaim what the LORD has done.

The LORD has chastened me severely,  
but he has not given me over to death.

Open for me the gates of the righteous;

I will enter and give thanks to the LORD.

This is the gate of the LORD  
through which the righteous may enter.

I will give you thanks, for you answered me;  
you have become my salvation.

The stone the builders rejected  
has become the cornerstone;

the LORD has done this,

and it is marvellous in our eyes.

The LORD has done it this very day;

let us rejoice today and be glad.

### THE GOSPEL FOR EASTER DAY : JOHN 20:1-18

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, 'They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him.' Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went towards the tomb. The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first.

He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, and the cloth that had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. Then the disciples returned to their homes.



**"He is not here;  
he has risen,  
just as he said.**

**Come and see the place  
where he lay."**

**Matthew 28:6 (NIV)**

But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. They said to her, 'Woman, why are you weeping?' She said to them, 'They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him.' When she had said this, she turned round and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to her, 'Woman, why are you weeping? For whom are you looking?' Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, 'Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away.'

Jesus said to her, 'Mary!' She turned and said to him in Hebrew, 'Rabbouni!' (which means Teacher). Jesus said to her, 'Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, "I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God."' '

Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, 'I have seen the Lord'; and she told them that he had said these things to her.

## CELEBRATE

C is for the cross where Jesus died to set us free from sin

E is for everyone – that means you and me

L is for God's love; we can't earn it or buy it

E is for Eternity :

B is for Broken : The good news of Easter is that Jesus has broken through death and sin. Egg – how does a chick get out?

Jesus wants us to break out of our shells – he is calling us to a whole new way of living, calling us to trust him to care for us as we leave behind the security of staying inside our shells. Unbroken shells are lovely to look at, but a chick who stays inside will never experience life.

R is for Resurrection - Jesus didn't stay dead, he rose again.

A is for Action – our response to accept his love,

T is for thanks

E is for Easter : Easter is all about the good news that Jesus is alive.

Jesus you died for me  
*(arms out like a cross)*

Jesus you came to life for me  
*(arms up)*

Jesus you are alive for ever, and ever, and ever  
*(clap hands during the evers)*

**John Bunyan wrote Pilgrim's Progress in the 17<sup>th</sup> century.** In one beautiful passage, Christian and his travelling companion Hopeful are awaiting certain death in Doubting Castle. They are praying through the night when all at once Christian sees the Easter light break forth in his heart: "What a fool am I thus to lie in a stinking dungeon when I may as well walk at liberty. I have a key in my bosom called Promise that will, I am persuaded, open any lock in Doubting Castle." And so it did for Christian and Hopeful as they escape the grave of despair by the key of the risen Christ. *(quoted on This is church website)*

What a powerful message for all of us on this Easter morning when the world has been plunged into the darkness of suffering and death. We can choose to remain in the dungeon of fear and despair, or like Pilgrim, use the key called Promise, trusting in the powerful truth that Jesus has defeated death – He is Risen. **Alleluia !**