

This week we pray in love for:

The Church

- ◆ Those who help keep our churches and churchyards tidy and clean
- ◆ The *Parish Link* and its editor Fiona and team; and Les and parishlink.org.uk
- ◆ Glenda, our benefice administrator
- ◆ Those who read and lead intercessions on Sunday mornings
- ◆ Vocations to ministry

In our Diocesan Prayer Diary, we pray for the parish of Dunton in the deanery of Biggleswade

April prayers for...

Kensworth

Common Road from Hollicks Lane to Isle of Wight Lane

Studham

Dunstable Road, Southern Way, Bell Farm Close and Bell Cottages

Whipsnade

Oldhill Wood and Byslips Road

This week please remember in your prayers: those in the midst of illness, operations or accidents, including Frank and Barbara Walker, Trish Palmer, Alan Geeson, Jo Hutchinson, Clifford Bygrave, Ann and Malcolm Weir, Wendy Kennedy, Chris Hazell, Catherine, Hilda, Mike, Karen; and those who have died recently, including Des Salmon and Carol Wheeldon.

Do you have a name or a request for prayer that you wish to have included on this prayer list? Please email Nicola on revnicolalenthall@btinternet.com before Thursday each week.

A prayer for this week: O unfamiliar God, we seek you in the places you have already left, and fail to see you even when you stand before us. Grant us so to recognise your strangeness that we need not cling to our familiar grief, but may be freed to proclaim resurrection in the name of Christ. Amen.

Readings for next week: Exodus 14: 10-end; 15:20,21; Acts 2: 14a, 22-32; John 20: 19-end

• ***Dates for your diary***

- **Thursday 16th April, 10.30am** – Funeral of Des Salmon, Studham Church
- **Thursday 16th April, 7.30pm** – Kensworth APM and APCM, Kensworth Church Hall
- **Saturday 18th April, 7.30pm** – Studham Wine-Tasting evening, Studham Village Hall
- **Sunday 19th April, 5-6pm** – Confirmation session, Kensworth Church Hall
- **Tuesday 21st April, 11.30am** – Funeral of Carol Wheeldon, Vale Crematorium
- **Wednesday 22nd April, 12.30pm** – Whipsnade Village Lunch, Whipsnade Village Hall
- **Wednesday 22nd April, 7.30pm** – Whipsnade APM and APCM, Whipsnade Church
- **Thursday 23rd April, 7.30pm** – Studham APM and APCM, Studham Church

Foodbank requirements:

Long-life fruit juice; solid meat; savoury biscuits/crackers; tinned fruit; tinned vegetables; jam; long-life milk; carrier bags. No pasta or rice please.

Church APMs and APCMs – these are our annual meetings to which all are welcome:

Kensworth – Thursday 16th April at 7.30pm in Kensworth Church Hall

Whipsnade – Wednesday 22nd April at 7.30pm in church

Studham – Thursday 23rd April at 7.30pm in church

Nicola and her family wish you all a very happy and blessed Easter!

Welcome to the United Benefice of Kensworth, Studham and Whipsnade

Part of the North Chilterns Group of Parishes

Sunday 5th April 2026 Easter Day

Kensworth **11.00am** – Easter Day
Holy Communion
Studham **10.00am** – Easter Day
Holy Communion
Whipsnade 9.00am – Easter Day
Holy Communion

Services next week: 12th April

Kensworth 10.30am – Morning Service
with Sunday School
Studham 10.30am – Holy Communion
Whipsnade 9.00am – Holy Communion
with Sunday School

If this is your first visit to one of our churches, then please make yourself known as we're a friendly lot – really! The rector (Nicola) can be reached on (01582) 872223 or at revnicolalenthall@btinternet.com. Please also email Nicola if you'd like to receive this service sheet weekly by email. We hope you enjoy your time with us.

Sunday 5th April 2026
Easter Day

The Collect

Lord of all life and power, who through the mighty resurrection of your Son overcame the old order of sin and death to make all things new in him: grant that we, being dead to sin and alive to you in Jesus Christ, may reign with him in glory; to whom with you and the Holy Spirit be praise and honour, glory and might, now and in all eternity. **Amen**

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

Acts 10: 34-43

Peter began to speak to those assembled in the house of Cornelius. 'I truly understand that God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.'

This is the word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God

A reading from St Paul's Letter to the Colossians

Colossians 3: 1-4

If you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth, for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.

This is the word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God

Hear the Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to John

All: Glory to You, O Lord

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. 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 around 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.

This is the Gospel of the Lord

All: Praise to you, O Christ

Prayer after Communion

God of Life, who for our redemption gave your only-begotten Son to the death of the cross, and by his glorious resurrection have delivered us from the power of our enemy: grant us so to die daily to sin, that we may evermore live with him in the joy of his risen life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

REFLECTIONS ON THE READINGS:

Take a moment to pray for a person or situation needing the new life of Christ this Eastertide.

For parents and carers, ask your children: "How can we look for Jesus' love and goodness in the world today?"