



St. Margaret's Church Putney

Architect Gilbert Wynne

VIGIL AND FIRST MASS OF EASTER

04th April 2026

7.30pm



ST MARGARET'S

PUTNEY

*Our service begins in silence and
darkness outside the church.
Candles are distributed but not lit.*

Dear brothers and sisters in
Christ, on this most holy
night, when our Lord Jesus
Christ passed from death to
life, the Church invites her
children throughout the world
to come together in vigil and
prayer. This is the Passover of
the Lord. We remember his
death and resurrection by
hearing his word and
celebrating his mysteries,
confident that we shall share
his victory over death and live
with him for ever in God.

The fire is kindled.

Let us pray:

Eternal God, who made this
most holy night to shine with
the brightness of your one
true light: set us aflame with
the fire of your love and bring
us to the radiance of your
heavenly glory; through Jesus
Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

The paschal candle is marked:

Christ yesterday and today
(the vertical arm of the cross is traced)
The beginning and the end
(the horizontal arm)

Alpha
(alpha, above the cross)
and Omega
(omega, below the cross)
all time belongs to him
(the first numeral, in the upper left hand
corner of the cross)
and all the ages
(the second numeral in the upper right corner)
to him be glory and power
(the third numeral in the lower left corner)
through every age for ever.
(the last numeral in the lower right corner).
All Amen.

*The priest inserts five grains
of incense into the candle
in the form of a cross, saying:*
By his holy
and glorious wounds
may Christ our Lord
guard us
and keep us.

All Amen.

*The priest lights the Easter Candle
with the taper, saying*
May the light of Christ, rising in
glory, banish all darkness from
our hearts and minds.

All Amen.

*The candle is brought into the house
proclaiming three times:*

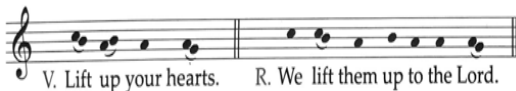
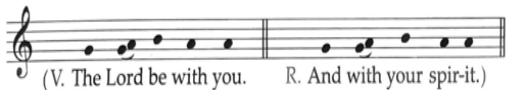
The light of Christ.



All Thanks be to God.

The Exultet

Please be seated. The deacon sings the opening of the Exultet:



*The Exultet concludes:
May this flame be found still
burning by the Morning Star: the
one Morning Star who never sets,
Christ your Son, who, coming back
from death's domain, has shed his
peaceful light on humanity, and ...*



The Vigil

As we await the risen Christ, let us hear the record of God's saving deeds in history, recalling how he saved his people in ages past and in the fullness of time sent his Son to be our Redeemer; and let us pray that through this Easter celebration God may bring to perfection in each of us the saving work he has begun.

The First Reading

Genesis 1:1-2,4a Adam & Eve

Christ is the image of the unseen God.

All through him all things were made.

Almighty God, you have created the heavens and the earth and made us in your own image: teach us to discern your hand in all your works and your likeness in all your children; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord.

All Amen.

The Second Reading

Genesis 7:1-5, 11-18; 8:6-18; 9:8-13
Noah and the Flood

In baptism we died to sin.

All In Christ we are raised to life.

Grant, Lord, that we who are baptized into the death of your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ may continually put to death our evil desires and be buried with him; and that through the grave and gate of death we may pass to our joyful resurrection; through his merits, who died and was buried and rose again for us, your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

The Third Reading

Genesis 22:1-18 – Abraham

God so loved the world.

All **that he gave his only Son.**

Almighty God, whose chosen servant Abraham faithfully obeyed your call and rejoiced in your promise that, in him, all the families of the earth should be blessed: give us a faith like his, that, in us, your promises may be fulfilled; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord.

All **Amen.**

The Fourth Reading

Exodus 14:10 to end; 15: 20-21 - Moses

Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

All **Therefore let us keep the feast.**

Lord God our redeemer, who heard the cry of your people and sent your servant Moses to lead them out of slavery: free us from the tyranny of sin and death and, by the leading of your Spirit, bring us to our promised land; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

The Fifth Reading

Isaiah 55.1-11

God will write his law on our hearts.

All **He will be our God and we will be his people.**

Almighty God, in Christ you make all things new: transform the poverty of our nature by the riches of your grace, and in the renewal of our lives make known your heavenly glory; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord.

All **Amen.**

The Sixth Reading

Ezekiel 37.1-14

Christ is the resurrection and the life.

All **Those who believe in Christ will never die.**

Lord God of our salvation, you speak the word to your scattered people, and bring up our life from the valley of death: breathe your Spirit upon your Church, that we may live and stand before you confident in your risen Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

All **Amen.**

Please stand as the priest steps forward to the paschal candle, saying:

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

All **He is risen indeed.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

The people's candles are extinguished, and the lights are turned on. A loud sound is made by the organ and in the church.

**Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to His 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.**

The Collect for Easter

Let us pray that we may reign with the risen Christ in glory.

Grant, Lord,
that we who are baptized into the death of your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ may continually put to death

our evil desires and be buried with him; and that through the grave and gate of death we may pass to our joyful resurrection; through his merits, who died and was buried and rose again for us, your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

Please be seated.

Romans 6:3-11

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans.

Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized 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.

The reader concludes:

This is the word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand as the Gospel is brought forward.

The choir sings
Alleluia.

Christ, our Passover, is sacrificed for us; therefore, let us keep the feast.
Alleluia.

Matthew 28.1-10

The Lord be with you.

All **And also with you.**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew

All **Glory to you, O Lord**

After the sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. And

suddenly there was a great earthquake; for an angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. For fear of him the guards shook and became like dead men. But the angel said to the women, 'Do not be afraid; I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. He is not here; for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. Then go quickly and tell his disciples, "He has been raised from the dead, and indeed he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him." This is my message for you.' So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. Suddenly Jesus met them and said, 'Greetings!' And they came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshipped him. Then Jesus said to them, 'Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All **Praise to You, O Christ.**

The Sermon

Sarah Cooper Lay Reader

Please be seated.

*After the sermon the priest and
people gather at the font:*

Surrexit

Daniel 3, J. Berthier 1923-1994

**Surrexit Christus, alleluia!
Cantate Domino, alleluia!**

Christ is risen, alleluia!

Sing to the Lord, alleluia!

The Renewal of Baptismal Vows

Please stand.

As we celebrate the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ from the dead, we remember that through the paschal mystery we have died and been buried with him in baptism.

In baptism, God calls us out of darkness into his marvellous light. To follow Christ means dying to sin and rising to new life with him. Therefore I ask:

Do you reject the devil and all rebellion against God?

All **I reject them.**

Do you renounce the deceit and corruption of evil?

All **I renounce them.**

Do you repent of the sins that separate us from God and neighbour?

All **I repent of them.**

Do you turn to Christ as Saviour?

All **I turn to Christ.**

Do you submit to Christ as Lord?

All **I submit to Christ.**

Do you come to Christ, the way, the truth and the life?

All **I come to Christ.**

May almighty God who has given you the desire to follow Christ give you the strength to continue in the way.

Praise God who made heaven and earth,

All **who keeps his promise for ever.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All **It is right to give thanks and praise.**

Almighty God, whose Son Jesus Christ was baptized in the river Jordan, we thank you for the gift of water to cleanse us and revive us.

We thank you that through the waters of the Red Sea

you led your people out of slavery to freedom in the Promised Land.

We thank you that through the deep waters of death you brought your Son and raised him to life in triumph.

Bless this water, that your servants who are washed in it may be made one with Christ in his death and in his resurrection, to be cleansed and delivered from all sin.

Send your Holy Spirit upon them, bring them to new birth in the household of faith and raise them with Christ to full and eternal life; for all might, majesty, authority and power are yours, now and for ever.

All **Amen.**

Brothers and sisters I ask you to profess the faith of the Church:

Do you believe and trust in God the Father?

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

Do you believe and trust in his Son, Jesus Christ?

All **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.

Do you believe and trust in the Holy Spirit?

All **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.**

Almighty God, we thank you for our fellowship in the household of faith with all who have been baptized in your name. Keep us faithful to our baptism, and so make us ready for that day when the whole creation shall be made perfect in your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ.

All **Amen.**

May Christ dwell in your hearts through faith, that you may be rooted and grounded in love and bring forth the fruit of the Spirit.

All **Amen.**

Surrexit

Daniel 3, J. Berthier 1923-1994

**Surrexit Christus, alleluia!
Cantate Domino, alleluia!**

Christ is risen, alleluia!

Sing to the Lord, alleluia!

The Peace

The risen Christ came and stood among his disciples and said, Peace be with you. Then they were glad when they saw the Lord.

Alleluia! The peace of the risen Christ be always with you.

All **And also with you. Alleluia!**

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

All may exchange a sign of peace.

**Jesus lives! thy terrors now
can, O death, no more appal us;
Jesus lives! by this we know
thou, O grave, canst not enthrall us.
Alleluia!**

**Jesus lives! henceforth is death
but the gate of life immortal;
this shall calm our trembling breath
when we pass its gloomy portal.
Alleluia!**

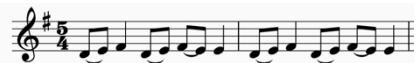
**Jesus lives! our hearts know well
nought from us his love shall sever;
life nor death nor powers of hell
tear us from his keeping ever.
Alleluia!**

**Jesus lives! to him the throne
over all the world is given;
may we go where he is gone,
rest and reign with him in heaven.
Alleluia!**

ST ALBINUS REH 149

*Christian Gellert 1715-69, trans Frances Cox
1812-97, H J Gauntlett 1805-76*

The Eucharistic Prayer



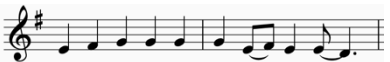
The Lord be with you. All **And also with you.**



Lift up your hearts. All **We lift them to the Lord.**



Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



All **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

The congregation is seated.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, always and everywhere to give you thanks, almighty and eternal Father, and on this night of our redemption to celebrate with joyful hearts the memory of your wonderful works.

For by the mystery of his passion Jesus Christ, your risen Son, has conquered the powers of death and hell and restored in men and women the image of your glory. He has placed them once more in paradise and opened to them the gate of life eternal.

And so, in the joy of this Passover, earth and heaven resound with gladness, while angels and archangels and the powers of all creation sing for ever the hymn of your glory:

**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.**

Accept our praises, heavenly Father, through your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ and, as we follow his example and obey his command, grant that by the

power of your Holy Spirit these gifts of bread and wine may be to us his body and his 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, heavenly Father, we remember his offering of himself made once for all upon the cross, we proclaim his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension, we look for the coming of your kingdom and with this bread and this cup we make the memorial of Christ your Son our Lord.

All **Great is the mystery of faith.
Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.**

Accept through him, our great high priest, this our sacrifice of thanks and praise and as we eat and drink these holy gifts in the presence of your divine majesty, renew us by your Spirit, inspire us with your love and unite us in the body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through him and with him and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, with all who stand before you in earth and heaven, we worship you, Father almighty, in songs of everlasting praise:

All **Blessing and honour and glory and power be yours for ever and ever. Amen.**

Rejoicing in God's new creation, as our Saviour taught us, so we pray:

All **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. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil; for the kingdom, the power**

and the glory are yours now and for ever. Amen.

We break the bread of life and that life is the Light of the World.

All **God here among us, light in the midst of us, bring us to light and life.**

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: grant us peace.

The choir sings

Alleluia.

Christ, our Passover, is sacrificed for us; therefore, let us keep the feast.

Alleluia.

Communion

The people receive communion.

Anthem

Now the Green Blade Rises

Trad. French
Arr. Alan Bullard (b.1947)

Prayers 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 has 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.

All **Amen.**

Please stand.

**Jesus Christ is risen today, Alleluia!
our triumphant holy day, Alleluia!
who did once, upon the cross, Alleluia!
suffer to redeem our loss. Alleluia!**

**Hymns of praise then let us sing, Alleluia!
unto Christ, our heavenly King, Alleluia!
who endured the cross and grave, Alleluia!
sinners to redeem and save. Alleluia!**

**But the pains that he endured Alleluia!
our salvation have procured; Alleluia!
now above the sky he's King, Alleluia!
where the angels ever sing. Alleluia!**

EASTER HYMN REH 147

*Surrexit Christus Hodie – a Bohemian
HymnAdptd from a melody in Lyra Davidica*

The Blessing & Dismissal

The Lord be with you.

All **And also with you.**

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

All **He is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

God the Father, by whose glory Christ was raised from the dead, strengthen you to walk with him in his risen life; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.

All **Amen.**

Go in the peace of Christ.
Alleluia, alleluia.

All **Thanks be to God.
Alleluia, Alleluia.**

Voluntary

*Böhm, Georg (1661-1733) Chorale
Prelude on Christ lag i Todesbanden
_Happy Easter!*

*Please join us for a glass of wine in
the kitchen*