

# St Mary's Church, Walkley



**The Church on the Road:**  
*Inclusive, Eucharistic, a safe place to be with God*

## **Easter Day Eucharist with Renewal of Baptismal vows**

**5<sup>th</sup> April 2026**

**Welcome to St Mary's Church, Walkley**

**President: The Revd Shan Rush  
Preacher: Joe, Reader at St Mary's  
Team Warden: Alexandra**

## Welcoming the Easter Candle

*We stand and turn to face the back of church.*

*President* 'Christ yesterday and today,  
*All* **the beginning and the end,**

*President* Alpha and Omega,  
all time belongs to him,  
and all ages;

*All* **to him be glory and power,  
through every age and for ever. Amen.**

*Minister* Alleluia. Christ is risen.

*All* **He is risen indeed. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

*President* This is the day when our Lord Jesus Christ was raised gloriously from the dead, crushing the power of sin and destroying the sting of death. Throughout the world Christians celebrate the mighty power of God as Christ calls us out of darkness to share in his marvellous light. May we, and all Christ's people, shine as lights in the world to the glory of God the Father.

*Minister* The light of Christ.

*All* **Thanks be to God.**

*We remain standing to sing, during which the Paschal candle is brought to the front.*

## Prayers at the Easter Garden

*Minister* 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.'

Matthew 28.5,6

*President* Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation,  
the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.  
To you be glory now and for ever.  
In your great mercy you have given us a new birth into a living hope  
through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.  
By your blessing,  
may we who have prepared this garden in celebration of his victory  
be strengthened in faith,  
know the power of his presence,  
and rejoice in the hope of eternal glory.  
Blessed be God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

*All* **Blessed be God for ever.**

*President* Risen Lord Jesus,  
as Mary Magdalene met you in the garden  
on the morning of your resurrection,  
so may we meet you today and every day:  
speak to us as you spoke to her;  
reveal yourself as the living Lord;  
renew our hope and kindle our joy;  
and send us to share the good news with others.

*All* **Amen.**

*We remain standing.*

### **The Gloria in Excelsis**

*Cantor* Gloria, Gloria, in excelsis Deo,  
Gloria, Gloria, in excelsis Deo,  
*All* **Gloria, Gloria, in excelsis Deo,  
Gloria, Gloria, in excelsis Deo.**

*Cantor* 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.

*All* **Gloria, Gloria, in excelsis Deo,  
Gloria, Gloria, in excelsis Deo.**

*Cantor* 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.

*All* **Gloria, Gloria, in excelsis Deo,  
Gloria, Gloria, in excelsis Deo.**

*Cantor* 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.

*All* **Gloria, Gloria, in excelsis Deo,  
Gloria, Gloria, in excelsis Deo.**

## The Collect

*President* Let us pray.

God of glory,  
by the raising of your Son  
you have broken the chains of death and hell:  
fill your Church with faith and hope;  
for a new day has dawned  
and the way to life stands open  
in our Saviour Jesus Christ.

*All* **Amen.**

*We sit.*

## The Reading: Acts 10. 34 - 43

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

Then Peter began to speak to them: '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.'

*Reader* This is the word of the Lord.

*All* **Thanks be to God.**

## The Gradual Hymn

*We stand and we sing. During the hymn we turn to face the processional cross as the book of the Gospels moves to the middle of the people.*

## The Gospel Reading: Matthew 28. 1 - 10

*Minister* Jesus Christ is risen from the dead.  
*All* **Alleluia.**  
*Minister* He has defeated the powers of death.  
*All* **Alleluia.**  
*Minister* Jesus turns our sorrow into dancing.  
*All* **Alleluia.**  
*Minister* He has the words of eternal life.

*The cantor or deacon sings and then we all sing:*



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

*Minister* 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.'

*Minister* This is the Gospel of the Lord.  
*All* **Praise to you, O Christ.**

## The Sermon

*We stand.*

### The Reaffirmation of Baptismal Calling

*President* 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 Jesus calls us out of darkness into his marvellous light so that we may shine as lights for Christ in the world today.

Brothers and sisters,

Will you continue to receive the light of Christ and grow into friendship with him as he comes to you in the Scriptures, in the Sacraments, in prayer, and in the fellowship of his Church?

*All* **With the help of God, we will.**

*President* Will you continue to walk in the light of Christ, seeking to follow him at home and at work, in rest and in activity?

*All* **With the help of God, we will.**

*President* Will you continue to reflect the light of Christ to those around you by serving those in need, making him known in your communities, and working for justice, peace and the good of all creation?

*All* **With the help of God, we will.**

*President* You have received the light of Christ; walk in this light all the days of your life.

*All* **We will shine as lights for Christ in the world to the glory of God the Father.**

*President* May God, who in baptism has enlightened you with his grace, continually stir up his gifts within you.

## The Profession of Faith

*President* Brothers and sisters, I ask you to profess the faith of the Church.

*President* Do you believe and trust in God the Father?

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

*President* 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.**

*President* 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.**

*We remain standing as the congregation is sprinkled with water  
from the font which was blessed at the Easter Vigil last night.*

*President* 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.**

*We sit or kneel.*

## The Prayers of Intercession

*Intercessor* Jesus, Lord of life,  
*All* **in your mercy, hear us.**

*Or another response is used.*

*Intercessor* Merciful Father,  
*All* **accept these prayers  
for the sake of your Son,  
our Saviour Jesus Christ.  
Amen.**

*We stand.*

## The Liturgy of the Sacrament

### The Peace

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

John 20.19, 20

*President* The peace of the Lord be always with you  
*All* **and also with you.**

*Minister* Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

*We exchange the peace through smiles, waves and handshakes  
with those around us, as you feel comfortable.*

### The Offertory Hymn

*We stand and we sing as the altar is prepared. If you would like to  
support St Mary's, donations can be made after the service at the  
back of church using the collection plate or contactless card giving  
station. If you would like to give regularly to St Mary's please speak  
to the Treasurer, or one of the Team Wardens.*

## The Eucharistic Prayer

*President* The Lord is here.

*All* **His Spirit is with us.**

*President* Lift up your hearts.

*All* **We lift them to the Lord.**

*President* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

*President* It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,  
always and everywhere to give you thanks,  
almighty and eternal Father,  
and in these days of Easter  
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.

*Cantor* Holy Holy Holy Lord

*All* **Holy Holy Holy Lord**

*Cantor* God of power and God of might

*All* **God of power and God of might**

*Cantor* Heaven and earth are full of your glory

*All* **Heaven and earth are full of your glory**

*Cantor* Hosanna in the highest

*All* **Hosanna in the highest**

*Cantor* Blessed is he who comes

*All* **Blessed is he who comes**

*Cantor* In the name of the Lord most High

*All* **In the name of the Lord most High**

*Cantor* Hosanna

*All* **Hosanna**

*Cantor* Hosanna

*All* **Hosanna**

*Cantor* Hosanna in the highest

*All* **Hosanna in the highest**

*President* We praise and bless you, loving Father,  
through Jesus Christ, our Lord;  
and as we obey his command,  
send your Holy Spirit,  
that broken bread and wine outpoured  
may be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.

On the night before he died he had supper with his friends  
and, taking bread, he praised you.

He broke the bread, gave it to them and said:  
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;  
do this in remembrance of me.

When supper was ended he took the cup of wine.  
Again he praised you, gave it to them and said:  
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.

So, Father, we remember all that Jesus did,  
in him we plead with confidence his sacrifice  
made once for all upon the cross.  
Bringing before you the bread of life and cup of salvation,  
we proclaim his death and resurrection  
until he comes in glory.

*Minister* Praise to you, Lord Jesus:

*Cantor* Dying you destroyed our death  
*All* **Dying you destroyed our death**

*Cantor* Rising you restored our life  
*All* **Rising you restored our life**

*Cantor* Lord Jesus come  
*All* **Lord Jesus come**

*Cantor* Lord Jesus come  
*All* **Lord Jesus come**

*Cantor* Come again in glory  
*All* **Come again in glory**

*President* Lord of all life,  
help us to work together for that day  
when your kingdom comes  
and justice and mercy will be seen in all the earth.

Look with favour on your people,  
gather us in your loving arms  
and bring us with Mary, Mark, John and all the saints  
to feast at your table in heaven.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
all honour and glory are yours, O loving Father,  
for ever and ever.

*All* **Amen.**

*We sit or kneel.*

### **The Lord's Prayer**

*President* 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.**

### **The Breaking of the Bread**

*President* Jesus says, I am the bread of life,  
whoever eats this bread will live for ever.

*All* **Lord, our hearts hunger for you;  
give us this bread always.**

## The Giving of Communion

*President* Alleluia. Christ our passover is sacrificed for us.

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

*The president will give instructions on how to come forward for communion and on returning to our seats. All are welcome to come to front for the bread and wine or a blessing. If you would like a blessing please keep your arms folded across your chest at you approach the front.*

*The president will dip the wafer in the wine before giving it to you. Gluten free wafers are available, please ask at the altar. During the distribution we sing and music is played.*

## The Prayer after Communion

*President* Let us pray.

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.

*All* **Amen.**

*All* **Father of all,  
we give you thanks and praise,  
that when we were still far off  
you met us in your Son and brought us home.  
Dying and living, he declared your love,  
gave us grace, and opened the gate of glory.  
May we who share Christ's body live his risen life;  
we who drink his cup bring life to others;  
we whom the Spirit lights give light to the world.  
Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us,  
so we and all your children shall be free,  
and the whole earth live to praise your name;  
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*We stand.*

## The Blessing

*President* Alleluia. Christ is risen.

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

*President* God the Father,  
by whose love Christ was raised from the dead,  
open to us who believe the gates of everlasting life.

*All* **Amen.**

*President* God the Son,  
who in bursting from the grave has won a glorious victory,  
give us joy as we share the Easter faith.

*All* **Amen.**

*President* God the Holy Spirit,  
who filled the disciples with the life of the risen Lord,  
empower us and fill us with Christ's peace.

*All* **Amen.**

*President* And the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be among us and remain with us always.

*All* **Amen.**

## The Closing Hymn

*We remain standing and we sing during which we turn to face the back of church as the robed ministers process.*

## The Dismissal

*Minister* He is not here. He is risen.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia, alleluia.

*All* **In the name of Christ. Amen. Alleluia, alleluia.**

*Please do stay for Easter refreshments after the service.*

For more information: [stmaryswalkley.co.uk](http://stmaryswalkley.co.uk)

If you would like to provide feedback on this service please speak a member of the Worship Group, Kath, Catherine, Janet or David. You can also email us [worship@stmaryswalkley.co.uk](mailto:worship@stmaryswalkley.co.uk)

