



# ST LAURENCE CHURCH CATFORD

## The Second Sunday of Easter

27th April 2025 , 10am



**Welcome** to St Laurence's this morning. In today's Gospel: a doubtful Thomas meets Jesus and believes! We welcome back Bishop Christopher on this special occasion.

At the entry of clergy and servers, please stand.

Ye choirs of new Jerusalem  
Your sweetest notes employ,  
The paschal victory to hymn  
In strains of holy joy.

How Judah's Lion burst his chains,  
And crushed the serpent's head;  
And brought with him, from death's domains  
The long-imprisoned dead.

From hell's devouring jaws the prey  
Alone our Leader bore;  
His ransomed hosts pursue their way  
where he hath gone before.

Triumphant in his glory now  
His sceptre ruleth all,  
Earth, heaven and hell before him bow,  
And at his footstool fall.

While joyful thus his praise we sing,  
His mercy we implore  
Into his palace bright to bring  
And keep us evermore.

All glory to the Father be,  
All glory to the Son,  
All glory, Holy Ghost, to thee,  
While endless ages run.  
Alleluia. Amen.

*St Fulbert of Chartres (d 1028)*

*H J Gauntlett (1805-76)*

*translated by R Campbell (1814-68)*

### Entrance antiphon

*Receive the joy of your glory, giving thanks to God, who has called you into the heavenly kingdom, alleluia.*

In the name of the ✠ Father, and of the Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit:

ALL: Amen

Alleluia, Christ is risen

He is risen indeed, Alleluia!

The priest briefly welcomes everyone to St Laurence's, and introduces the theme of the mass. We are then invited to call to mind whatever we have done wrong in the sight of God. The priest will sprinkle us with water from the font to remind us that it is through our baptism into Jesus' death and resurrection that our sins are forgiven. As we are sprinkled, we sing:

I saw water flowing from the right side of the temple, alleluia! It brought God's life and his salvation. And the people sang in joyful praise:  
Alleluia, Alleluia! (Ezekiel 47:1)

Bishop: Almighty God,  
have mercy upon you, forgive you your sins  
and bring you to eternal life. Amen.

Our sins forgiven, we sing the song of the angels:

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.

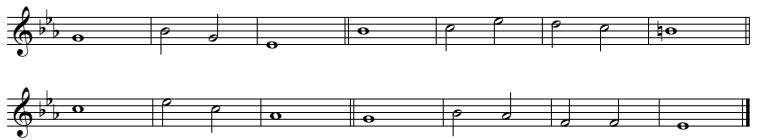
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,  
Lord God, Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world:  
have mercy on us;  
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:  
receive our prayer.

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. Amen.

The prayer of the day  
God of everlasting mercy,  
who, in the very recurrence of the paschal feast  
kindle the faith of the people you have made your own,  
increase, we pray, the grace you have bestowed,  
that all may grasp and rightly understand  
in what font they have been washed,  
by whose Spirit they have been reborn,  
by whose Blood they have been redeemed.  
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God for ever and ever. Amen.

Then everyone sits to listen to the first reading (the readings are printed out in the Centrefold of this booklet)

**Psalm 118 (Confitemini Domino)**



GIVE thanks unto the Lord, for | he is | gracious:  
because his | mercy . en|dureth . for | ever.

It is better to | trust in . the | Lord:  
than to put any | confi|dence in | man.

‡ It is better to | trust in . the | Lord:  
than to put any | confi|dence in | princes.

I will thank thee, for | thou hast | heard me:  
and | art be|come my . sal|vation.

The same stone which the | builders . re|fused:  
is become the | head-stone | in the | corner.

This is the | Lord's | doing:  
and it is | marvellous | in our | eyes.

Blessed be he that cometh in the | Name of . the | Lord:  
we have wished you good luck, \* ye that | are of .  
the | house of . the | Lord.

Thou art my God, and | I will | thank thee:  
thou art my | God, and | I will | praise thee.

O give thanks unto the Lord, for | he is | gracious:  
and his | mercy . en|dureth . for | ever.

Remain remain seated for the second reading,  
and then stand for the Gospel acclamation and  
the Gospel (John 20:19-31)

**Alleluia, alleluia**

Jesus said "You believe because you can see me.  
Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe."

**Alleluia, alleluia**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according  
to John

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

**At the end:**

This is the Gospel of the Lord:  
**Praise to you O Christ.**

**After the Gospel, please be seated for the  
sermon.**

**We stand for the creed**

We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God, begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father;  
through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate from the Holy Spirit  
and the Virgin Mary  
and was made man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the Scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory  
to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son  
is worshipped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.  
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.  
We acknowledge one baptism  
for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

**We all sit or kneel for the prayers.**

Lord, in your mercy  
hear our prayer.

**Please stand for the peace**

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

You are welcome to smile at or wave or bow to  
your neighbour.

**The offertory**

Gifts of bread and wine are brought up to the altar. A collection is taken for the life and work of this church. If you already give to the church through your bank or on-line, as most of the congregation do, or have no cash on you, just pass the alms plate along as it comes past. If you'd like to give by card ask one of the churchwardens at the end of the service.

**We stand to sing the offertory hymn**

At the Lamb's high feast we sing  
praise to our victorious King,  
who hath washed us in the tide  
flowing from his piercèd side;  
praise we him, whose love divine  
gives his sacred blood for wine,  
gives his body for the feast,  
Love the victim, Love the priest.

Where the Paschal blood is poured,  
Death's dark angel sheathes his sword;  
Israel's hosts triumphant go  
through the wave that drowns the foe.  
Christ, the Lamb whose blood was shed,  
Paschal victim, Paschal bread!  
with sincerity and love  
eat we Manna from above.

Mighty victim from on high,  
powers of hell beneath thee lie;  
Death is broken in the fight,  
thou hast brought us life and light.  
Now thy banner thou dost wave,  
conquering Satan and the grave.  
See the prince of darkness quelled;  
Heaven's bright gates are open held.

Paschal triumph, Paschal joy,  
only sin can this destroy;  
from sin's death do thou set free  
souls re-born, dear Lord, in thee.  
Hymns of glory, songs of praise,  
Father, unto thee we raise.  
Risen Lord, all praise to thee,  
ever with the Spirit be.

*Latin, translated by R Campbell (1814-68)*

### **The prayer over the gifts**

Accept, O Lord, we pray,  
the oblations of your people  
and of those you have brought to new birth,  
that, renewed by confession of your name and by Baptism,  
they may attain unending happiness  
Through Christ our Lord. Amen

**The priest invites the people to join in the  
eucharistic celebration, the Great Thanksgiving**

### **THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

The Lord be with you  
and also with you.

Lift up your hearts  
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God  
It is right to give thanks and praise.

Father, we give you thanks and praise  
through your beloved Son Jesus Christ,  
your living Word,  
through whom you have created all things;  
who was sent by you in your great goodness  
to be our Saviour.

By the power of the Holy Spirit he took flesh;  
as your Son, born of the blessed Virgin,  
he lived on earth and went about among us;  
he opened wide his arms for us on the cross;  
he put an end to death by dying for us;  
and revealed the resurrection by rising to new life;  
so he fulfilled your will and won for you a holy people.

And now we give you thanks  
because in his victory over the grave  
a new age has dawned,  
the long reign of sin is ended,  
a broken world is being renewed  
and humanity is once again made whole.

Therefore with angels and archangels,  
and with all the company of heaven,  
we proclaim your great and glorious name,  
for ever praising you and saying:





Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts  
Heaven and earth are full of thy glory;  
Glory be to thee O Lord most high.

Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord;  
Hosanna in the highest.

Lord, you are holy indeed, the source of all holiness;  
grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit,  
and according to your holy will,  
these gifts of bread and wine may be to us the body  
and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ;

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.*

Great is the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died:**

**Christ is risen:**

**Christ will come again.**

And so, Father, calling to mind his death on the cross,  
his perfect sacrifice made once for the sins of the  
whole world;

rejoicing in his mighty resurrection and glorious  
ascension,

and looking for his coming in glory,  
we celebrate this memorial of our redemption.

As we offer you this our sacrifice of praise & thanksgiving,  
we bring before you this bread and this cup  
and we thank you for counting us worthy  
to stand in your presence and serve you.

Send the Holy Spirit on your people  
and gather into one in your kingdom  
all who share this one bread and one cup,  
so that we, in the company of Laurence and all the saints,  
may praise and glorify you for ever,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord;

by whom, and with whom, and in whom,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
I honour and glory be yours, almighty Father,  
for ever and ever Amen.





Remaining standing, we sing together the  
Lord's prayer:

As our Saviour taught us, so 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.  
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 this bread to share in the body of Christ.

Though we are many, we are one body,  
because we all share in one bread.

Please kneel.

While the bread is broken, we sing:

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.

Behold the Lamb of God

who takes away the sins of the world.

Blessed are those who are called to his supper.

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

All who are prepared and are accustomed  
to receiving holy communion are invited to  
join with us this morning. Please follow the  
guidance of the churchwardens, who will invite  
you to the front of the church to receive if you wish.

Please receive the host standing. Reception of  
the Chalice is optional. If you wish to receive  
the Blood of Christ, please drink directly from  
the Cup. If you choose not receive the chalice,  
please pause to acknowledge the Blood of  
Christ (e.g. by a slight bow).

Anthem

Never weather-beaten sail more willing bent to shore,  
Never tired pilgrims limbs affected slumber more,  
Than my sprite now longs to fly out of my troubled breast:  
O come quickly, sweetest Lord, and take my soul to rest!

Ever blooming are the joys of heaven's high Paradise,  
Cold age deafs not there our ears

nor vapour dims our eyes:

Glory there the sun out-shines;

whose beams the Blessèd only see:

O come quickly, glorious Lord,

and raise my sprite to Thee!

*Thomas Campion (1567-1620)*

## Communion hymns

BREAD of heaven, on thee we feed,  
For thy flesh is meat indeed;  
Ever may our souls be fed  
With this true and living bread,  
Day by day with strength supplied  
Through the life of him who died.

Vine of heaven, thy blood supplies  
This blest cup of sacrifice;  
'Tis thy wounds our healing give;  
To thy cross we look and live:  
Thou our life! O let us be  
Rooted, grafted, built on thee.

*Josiah Conder (1789–1855)*



There's a wideness in God's mercy  
Like the wideness of the sea;  
There's a kindness in his justice,  
Which is more than liberty.  
There is no place where earth's sorrows  
Are more felt than up in heaven;  
There is no place where earth's failings  
Have such kindly judgment given.

For the love of God is broader  
Than the measure of man's mind;  
And the heart of the Eternal  
Is most wonderfully kind.  
But we make his love too narrow  
By false limits of our own;  
And we magnify his strictness  
With a zeal he will not own.

There is plentiful redemption  
In the blood that has been shed;  
There is joy for all the members  
In the sorrows of the Head.  
There is grace enough for thousands  
Of new worlds as great as this:  
There is room for fresh creations  
In that upper home of bliss.

If our love were but more simple,  
We should take him at his word;  
And our lives would be all gladness  
In the joy of Christ our Lord.

*Frederick William Faber (1814–1863)*

## Communion Antiphon

*Bring your hand and feel the place of the nails,  
and do not be unbelieving but believing, alleluia.*

## Prayer after Communion

Grant, we pray, almighty God,  
that our reception of this paschal Sacrament  
may have a continuing effect  
in our minds and hearts.  
Through Christ our Lord. Amen

After this prayer, please be seated for the  
Church notices.

Please stand for the blessing by Bishop Christopher and remain standing for the final hymn.

Go in the peace of Christ, alleluia, alleluia:  
Thanks be to God, alleluia, alleluia!

Love's redeeming work is done;  
fought the fight, the battle won;  
lo, our Sun's eclipse is o'er,  
lo, he sets in blood no more

Vain the stone, the watch, the seal;  
Christ has burst the gates of hell;  
death in vain forbids his rise;  
Christ has opened Paradise.

Lives again our glorious King;  
where, O death, is now thy sting?  
Dying once, he all doth save;  
where thy victory, O grave?

Soar we now where Christ has led,  
following our exalted Head;  
made like him, like him we rise;  
ours the cross, the grave, the skies.

Hail the Lord of earth and heaven!  
praise to thee by both be given:  
thee we greet triumphant now;  
hail, the Resurrection thou!

**Voluntary:** *Transports de joie* by Olivier Messiaen.

(There are some important moments of silence near the beginning – please don't applaud too early; it will be quite clear when the end comes!)

Please remain in your seat until the organist has finished playing the voluntary.

After the service, you are warmly invited to go through to the Church Hall to join us for tea and coffee.

At 6pm this evening, there will be a service of choral evensong (preacher: the Rt Rev'd David Atkinson), followed by a party with food and wine in the church hall. All are welcome.

---

### Church Notices

#### Mass this week

**Wednesday:** Mass 10.30am with exposition of the sacrament from 10am

#### **Next Sunday: Annual Meeting of Parishioners**

Next Sunday, our archdeacon, the Ven Chigor Chike, will be concelebrating and preaching at the 10am mass. The annual meeting of parishioners follows the mass in the church hall, when Churchwardens and Church Council will be elected. Also, Fr Chigor will be able to explain what happens next, after Fr Charles' retirement, and answer all your questions. Please make sure you attend this important meeting. Annual report booklets are available this morning (one per household please).

If you would like to stand for the Church Council, or any of the other elected positions, the churchwardens will have forms this morning.

## Electoral roll

The electoral roll is now closed until the annual meeting. However, it's not too late to sign up to be on the parish prayer list or for the newsletter.

## Asst Parish Manager

We are advertising for a competent administrator to help run the parish; £15/hr for 12 hours/week. Details on the St Laurence website. Deadline April 30th.

## During the vacancy

Until we have a new vicar, there will be some changes here at St Laurence's.

- We will only have one mass during the week, on Wednesdays at 10.30am. We'll leave the Thursday morning mass for now
- We will be ceasing the 8am mass on Sunday mornings. So there will no longer be an 8am mass on Sundays until we have a new priest.
- The eNewsletter will continue to be published some Fridays or Saturdays. This will be a really important way of keeping in touch with parish news, especially about the appointment process. If you haven't yet subscribed, please do so, via the parish website.
- Fr Andrew and Fr Anthony along with the churchwardens will be running the parish. For any enquiries about weddings, baptisms or funerals, please have a word with them after mass on a Sunday, or contact the parish office.
- Funerals: whereas to date we have been willing to have any funeral in church which we are asked to conduct, we will now only be available for the church funerals of active parishioners and their relatives, or for people who actually live in the parish.

---

## For your prayers

**among the sick:** Beverley & John Lashley, Taleta Haye, Minette Stevens, Sarah Cole, Bridgit Sam-Bailey, Marcia Sanderson, Ottis Edwards, Elaine Stanislaus, Marcia Wilson, Robert Green, Roy Brown, Kayla Brown, Ros Ovbiovbio, Marva Mayne, Natasha Joseph, Degus Vassell, Anita Greenidge, Thelma Corbin, Beverley Willacy, Kevin Counihan, Charles Gasa, Josette Owens, Everton White, Elaine Thompson-Dixon, Everton Bend, Annette Cox-Simmons, Selena Goodyear, Ron & Kay Lanston, Esme Francis, Girda Carty, Cheyne Reid, Daphne Moore, Leon Haynes, Elizabeth Halfpenny, Ometa Alli, Eugenie Gregory, Dolphus Perkins, Jacqui Lanston, Michelle Brown, Liz Thussu, Richard Hunt

**recently departed:** Lester Barrett

**anniversaries:** 27th Emily Jane Patten, Fred East; 28th Suzanna Woolley, Arthur Woolley; 30th George Lundie; 1st Dorothy Mason, Russell Thorne

---

**Today's sidespersons team:** Josephine B, Joan B, Jeni G, Lorna A

**Chalice rota:** Gabriel, Ijeoma TBC

---

## Contact us

**Parish Clergy:** Fr Charles: 020 8698 2871,

**Parish Office** (Richard Swann): 020 8698 9706

e: [info@stlaurencecatford.org.uk](mailto:info@stlaurencecatford.org.uk), w: [stlaurencecatford.org.uk](http://stlaurencecatford.org.uk)