



PARISH OF CIRENCESTER
St John Baptist | Holy Trinity | St Lawrence

The Second Sunday of Easter
12th April 2026

Collect

Almighty Father,
you have given your only Son to die for our sins
and to rise again for our justification:
grant us so to put away the leaven of malice
and wickedness
that we may always serve you
in pureness of living and truth;
through the merits of your Son Jesus Christ
our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

or Risen Christ,
for whom no door is locked, no
entrance barred:
open the doors of our hearts,
that we may seek the good of
others
and walk the joyful road of
sacrifice and peace,
to the praise of God the Father.

Acts 2.14a,22-32

On the day of Pentecost ¹⁴ Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd ‘Men of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say.

²² ‘You that are Israelites, listen to what I have to say: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with deeds of power, wonders, and signs that God did through him among you, as you yourselves know— ²³ this man, handed over to you according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of those outside the law. ²⁴ But God raised him up, having freed him from death, because it was impossible for him to be held in its power. ²⁵ For David says concerning him,

“I saw the Lord always before me,
for he is at my right hand so that I will not be shaken;
²⁶ therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced;
moreover, my flesh will live in hope.

²⁷ For you will not abandon my soul to Hades,
or let your Holy One experience corruption.

²⁸ You have made known to me the ways of life;
you will make me full of gladness with your presence.”

²⁹ ‘Fellow Israelites, I may say to you confidently of our ancestor David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. ³⁰ Since he was a prophet, he knew that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would put one of his descendants on his throne. ³¹ Foreseeing this, David spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah, saying, “He was not abandoned to Hades, nor did his flesh experience corruption.”

³² This Jesus God raised up, and of that all of us are witnesses.

1 Peter 1.3-9

³ Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, ⁴ and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, ⁵ who are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. ⁶ In this you rejoice, even if now for a little while you have had to suffer various trials, ⁷ so that the genuineness of your faith—being more precious than gold that, though perishable, is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honour when Jesus Christ is revealed.

⁸ Although you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy, ⁹ for you are receiving the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

John 20.19-31

¹⁹ When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.' ²⁰ After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord.

²¹ Jesus said to them again, 'Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.' ²² When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, 'Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³ If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.'

²⁴ But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵ So the other disciples told him, 'We have seen the Lord.' But he said to them, 'Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.'

²⁶ A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.' ²⁷ Then he said to Thomas, 'Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.' ²⁸ Thomas answered him, 'My Lord and my God!' ²⁹ Jesus said to him, 'Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.'

³⁰ Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. ³¹ But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

Post Communion

Lord God our Father, through our Saviour Jesus Christ
you have assured your children of eternal life
and in baptism have made us one with him:
deliver us from the death of sin and raise us to new life in your love,
in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, by the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ.

BCP Sunday 12th April - The First Sunday after Easter

BCP Collect and Readings beginning on Page 136

This Week's Sunday Services more information: www.cirenparish.co.uk

St John Baptist: 8a.m. BCP and 10a.m. Eucharist; 4p.m. Evening Worship

Holy Trinity: 8a.m. Eucharist and 10a.m. Eucharist; 1.30p.m. Baptism

St Lawrence: 10.30a.m. Service of the Word

Next week's CW readings for Sunday 19th April - The Third Sunday of Easter

Acts 2.14a,36-41; 1 Peter 1.17-23; Luke 24.13-35

Sunday 19th April - BCP The Second Sunday after Easter

BCP Collect and Readings beginning on Page 137

Next Week's Sunday Services more information: www.cirenparish.co.uk

St John Baptist: 8a.m. BCP and 10a.m. Eucharist; 4p.m. Choral Evensong

Holy Trinity: 8a.m. Eucharist and 10a.m. Eucharist

St Lawrence: 10.30a.m. Eucharist; 4p.m. Restore@ 4

Parish Forum open for enquiries Mon, Tue, Thu, Fri...10a.m. – Midday

Canon Graham is available every Monday 5.30 - 6.30p.m. in the Parish Forum

NOTICES FOR THE PARISH

The Parish Church **Coffee Group** would like some more volunteers to assist serving coffee and biscuits after Sunday services. Please contact Phil Kerton 07776011440 or philkerton@gmail.com for more information.

The next **Prayer Meeting** to pray for Cirencester will be on **Wednesday 15th April at 2.30pm** in the **Parish Forum**. This month we will be praying for our Churches & their influence on the community. Please come along and join us, everyone is welcome.

On **April 17th**, the **Illuminated Orchestra** are coming to **St John Baptist** to give two concerts (**6.15pm and 8.45pm**) of music by Hans Zimmer and other film favourites. Tickets can be found at illuminatedorchestra.co.uk

Our Annual Vestry and **Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM)** will be held at **noon** on **Sunday 19th April 2026** at **St John Baptist** following the morning services. Additional information, including minutes of last year's APCM and Special Parochial Church Meeting (SPCM), can be found on the Parochial Church Council section of our website: <https://cirenparish.co.uk/community-and-whats-on/parochial-church-council/>

On **April 24th** at **7.30pm**, we will be welcoming **The King's Men** to **St John Baptist**. Due to popular demand, the singers from King's College, Cambridge will be returning with what should be a wonderfully varied and exciting programme, ranging from classical to more contemporary music.

Contributions to pewleaflet@cirenparish.co.uk by Tuesday evening please!

Mothers' Union Corporate Communion: The next service is on **Thursday 23rd April** at **noon** in St John Baptist.

Cirencester Foodbank has formally changed its name to **South Cotswolds Foodbank** which better represents the many towns and villages whose residents rely on the support made possible by the generosity of those who make donations.

An Evening with Anne Boleyn: The Friends of Cirencester Parish Church warmly invite you to "An Evening with Anne Boleyn" - a Talk and Reception in the **Parish Church** on **Friday 15 May** at **6.30 for 7pm**. Our speaker will be **Dr Owen Emmerson**, Curator of the current Anne Boleyn Exhibition at Hever Castle. The Church's replica of The Anne Boleyn Cup is presently on loan to the Exhibition. It promises to be a most interesting evening. **Tickets cost £15**, including wine, and are available online and, in due course, from the Church. Members of the Friends will not be charged, but will need a ticket to be admitted (to ensure we have sufficient seating). As the annual cost of being a member of the Friends is £20, this may be an ideal moment to join us.

Michael Gledhill, Chairman

From the Parish Calendar:

- Mon 13 Apr 10.30am: Prayers for the Persecuted Church – Holy Trinity/Parish Hall
- Tue 14 Apr 11am: Funeral (Aubrey Phelps) – Holy Trinity
- Tue 14 Apr 7.30pm: ALIVE Course – St Lawrence
- Wed 15 Apr 12noon: Society of Catholic Priests – Holy Trinity
- Thu 16 Apr 1pm: Finance Sub Committee – Parish Forum
- Thu 16 Apr 4.30pm: Wedding Rehearsal – St John Baptist
- Sat 18 Apr 11am: Wedding Meeting – St John Baptist
- Sat 18 Apr 2pm: Wedding (McKeever/Chevreau-Kareliussen) – St John Baptist

Contact Details:

Canon Graham 01285 239655 / 07871 571147; email: vicar@cirenparish.co.uk

Rev'd Luke 07850 270719; email: revlukefalvey@cirenparish.co.uk

Parish Office 01285 659317; email: office@cirenparish.co.uk

Monday to Saturday:

St John Baptist: Morning Prayer: Daily at 9.15am (not Saturday)

Midday Eucharist: Daily at noon (Saturday at 10am)

Evening Prayer: Monday, Wednesday, Friday at 5pm

Little Angels: Mondays at 9.30am

Holy Trinity: Eucharist: Wednesdays at 7pm

St Lawrence: Drop In: Wednesdays at 9am

Parish Forum: Coffee & Chat: Thursdays at 10am

Contributions to pewleaflet@cirenparish.co.uk by Tuesday evening please!