

# Welcome

Week beginning Sunday 12th April  
Second Sunday of Easter - First After Easter

## Easter Hope

French philosopher, Jean-Paul Sartre was a passionate atheist. He faced up to the full consequences of atheism. In 1980 he wrote: *"With this third world war which might break out one day, with this wretched gathering which our planet now is, despair returns to tempt me. The idea that there is no purpose, only petty personal ends for which we fight! We make little revolutions, but there is no goal for mankind. One cannot think such things. They tempt you incessantly. ... the world seems ugly, bad, and without hope. There, that's the cry of despair of an old man who will die in despair. But that's exactly what I resist. I know I shall die in hope. But that hope needs a foundation."* Yes it does!

Today's epistle and gospel exude hope and could not be clearer about the foundation for a sure and certain hope. It's not a hope fraught with uncertainty, such as the possibility of England's men winning the football World Cup this summer! It focuses on the unique person of The Lord Jesus Christ, triumphant over death. He was the focus of Peter's Pentecost sermon. It was the Lord who burst from the tomb on Easter morning, in order to burst into the locked upper room on Easter evening and a week later to the astonishment of a bunch of dispirited, despairing failures.

*"Peace be with you,"* said twice. No condemnation! No language of criticism or judgment. No writing off this bunch of disciples who promised much and delivered nothing when the chips were down in the Garden of Gethsemane. Rather, *"Peace be with you."* What are the implications of Christ's resurrection for the early disciples and for us today?

Death does not declare the final word. Jesus Christ does. On the last day, when He comes in power and glory, He comes as both Judge for those who reject Him, and Saviour for those who seek to love Him. We are a people of hope.

Despair need not dominate. Hope is found in Jesus Christ through His resurrection from the dead. He comes to bring us peace, even behind our personal locked doors. We are people of peace.

Failure is not final. Forgiveness forgets failure where there is repentance. The repentant disciples were given forgiveness by the Lord Jesus Christ. Even more, they were trusted again and given a fresh commission. *"As the Father sent me, so I send you."* John 20:21. Such love! We are a people of good news and mission.

Weakness need not condemn us. The Lord replaces our weakness with His power and strength to live for Him. *"... He breathed on them and said, 'receive the Holy Spirit.'"* John 20:22. We are a people of meekness – reflecting Christ's gracious strength.

**Readings**

Acts 2. 14a, 22-32 John 20. 19-end

**Collect**

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. Amen

**Dr Jazz**

**7.30pm 18th April**

Easy listening from the golden age of jazz.

St Andrew's Church Rooms

Tickets £10

[weymouth.ridgeway.team.office@gmail.com](mailto:weymouth.ridgeway.team.office@gmail.com)  
01305 837147

**Quiz & Chilli Night**

**7pm Friday 17th April**

Osmington Village Hall

(Veggie & non-chilli options available)

Teams of 6 Tickets £12.50

07816 832554/07885 772488

(Only drinks purchased on the premises may be consumed)

**Nick Capaldi**

**Singer/Songwriter**

7pm Saturday 25th April

St Nicholas Church, Broadway. DT3 6DN

Tickets £15 Contact Susana on 07944617553  
[susanamalik@yahoo.com](mailto:susanamalik@yahoo.com)

**Men's Night**

**St Francis' Church, Littlemoor**

7pm Saturday 18th April

A delicious curry will be on offer but please feel free to bring other food to share.

A fun evening with good food, good company + games.

**St Francis' Church Garden Meeting**

7.30pm Wednesday 8th April in

St Francis' Church Vestry

You do not need to commit to working in the garden, ideas are equally important



**Worship Room Prayer Meeting**

**7.00pm Saturday 25th April**

**St Andrew's Church Rooms.**

A time to worship Jesus in spirit and in truth.

**For more information or if your church has something it would like advertised on the newsletter please contact**

**Team Administrator**

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