

Reflection

by Rev Canon Sarah Partridge

'Something struck me particularly when looking at the Gospel for this Sunday. I will talk more about Thomas and his doubts in my sermon but here I want to reflect on the fact that the disciples were indoors. This must surely strike a chord with all of us. The eleven were inside because they were fearful of what might happen to them if they ventured outside, of the risk of being recognised as followers of Jesus and the possible consequences thereof. We are indoors because we are fearful of an indiscriminate virus that threatens our health and well being.

But what the disciples experienced was that even in their self imposed isolation Jesus was there with them. Although we cannot get into our churches this should remind us that there is nowhere that Jesus cannot be. He is no more with us when we are in church than when we are at home, at work or anywhere else. He is always with us, and he will never leave us because that is what he has promised us and his promise is faithful and true.'

The 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.
Amen



King Charles the Martyr
Tunbridge Wells

Second Sunday of Easter 19th April 2020

We regret to inform you that all Church Services in the Church are suspended and that the Church is closed until further notice.

Today's Services

All are welcome to tune in and join us:

Holy Communion (BCP) - 8.30am
with Revd Claire Allwood

Parish Holy Communion (CW) - 10am
with Revd Canon Sarah Partridge

www.kcmtw.org

[https://www.facebook.com/
kingcharlesthemartyr/](https://www.facebook.com/kingcharlesthemartyr/)

Next Sunday 26th April

Holy Communion (BCP) - 8.30am
with Revd Canon Sarah Partridge

Parish Holy Communion (CW) - 10am
with The Revd Laurence Powell

Zoom Prayer Meetings

Laurence and Claire invite you to join our online prayer meetings for King Charles the Martyr and St Mark's churches on Mondays at 7:30pm. The link for these meetings is the same one each week as that attached below. If you would like further details on how to join, please do contact Claire (Claire.Allwood@stmarkschurch.org.uk).

We look forward to seeing you there.

Join Zoom Meeting:

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/560377642?
pwd=ZlFqRVJFMUxqL1AvNlVERHgzOFE5dz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/560377642?pwd=ZlFqRVJFMUxqL1AvNlVERHgzOFE5dz09)
Meeting ID: 560 377 642 - Password: 062997

Vicar: The Revd Laurence Powell

01892 525455 - laurence.powell@me.com

Associate Vicar:

The Revd Canon Sarah Partridge

01892 853451

Associate Vicar:

The Revd Claire Allwood

079769 59280

Parish Office

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10am Reading: Acts 2. 14a, 22-32

¹⁴ But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them: '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.

Gospel Reading: John 20. 19-end

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.