

5th – 11th APRIL 2026 EASTER WEEK – NEWSLETTER

'Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, 'I have seen the Lord'' (John 20:18a)

Dear friends,

HAPPY EASTER!



I write this still in Holy Week, on Maundy Thursday when we have found **such inspiration and encouragement from our schools** all who have gathered in our churches to remember **Jesus' journey to the Cross and the wonder of Easter.**



Children of our Primary Schools in Gainford, Ingleton, and Staindrop had prepared in anticipation of their services well supported by parents, families and church members.

80 students from Staindrop Academy with 25 adults spent 2 hours immersed in



a specially created Stations of the Cross experience of **'Awe and Wonder' in the story of the Crucifixion and Resurrection.** They found the taste of wine vinegar a profound experience – it stung them that Jesus was given this to drink as he hung on the Cross in pain and thirst. Well done our Ordinand in Training Sarah and Children's Minister Paula. They were followed a few hours after with Staindrop Primary School, and together with **parents and families filled the church** – some found themselves having to stand but everyone was eagerly attentive to

hear once again of God's love of Easter, and the hope for all in the Jesus's Resurrection.

Every class and some individual children of Staindrop Primary presented me with **farewell, thank you, and happy 'retirement' cards.** Here is one from Class 3, among the many. A great kindness of headteacher Steve and deputy head Caroline.



On Easter Monday, everyone is invited to join in the **EASTER WALK** through Raby's deer park and woods specially opened to us by Lord Barnard Staindrop St Mary's Patron. Do come along; **meet. at the church at 2pm.** The walk is **followed by tea and cake in Scarth Hall.** It's a sponsored walk to raise funds for St Mary's, Staindrop.

EASTER DAY COMMUNIONS

9.30am	Winston St Andrew	Rev'd Canon Eileen Harrop
10.45am	Gainford St Mary WITH BAPTISM	Rev'd Canon Eileen Harrop
2pm	Ingleton St John	Rev'd Canon Eileen Harrop
4pm	Staindrop St Mary	Rev'd Canon Alec Harding



Rev'd Canon Eileen Harrop

NOTICES:

Please pray for

- † **OSCAR GEORGE RAW**, who is **BEING BAPTISED** on **EASTER Sunday** at **Gainford St Mary's Church** during the **Easter Service at 10.45am**. Pray for his parents Simon and Sophie, and Edward's Godparents Clair, Kevin, Megan, and Craig, who will be making promises to guide him to know and follow their Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, and his sister Isabelle (who had been baptised in 2023).



CONGRATULATIONS SARAH FELLS – Ordinand in Training:

Sarah is in the first cohort of the Church of England's Ordinands transferring from Lay Ministry and in later years to discern Ordination in the Elizabeth Pathway. She has to satisfy many conditions in addition to studying and training with Lindisfarne College of Theology, including satisfying 2 Bishops Advisory Panels for her suitability for Ordained Ministry. Sarah has passed with full support of the 1st panel, which is the regional panel. Please pray for Sarah as she attends the final national panel on the 1st and 2nd of June.

Sarah with Sheila Jones, our Youth Saints Leader, will host a **Holiday Club for 7 to 13 year old youth during the Easter holidays, on Thursday 16th April at St Mary's, Gainford and in the outdoors**. This will be led by Scripture Union. Do encourage anyone you know who have youth and are not away to join in. It's only £1 per child!

Easter Sport In A Day Holiday Club



Thursday 16th April
St Mary's Church, Gainford
(Supported by Scripture union)



Sporting challenges, ball games, stories, songs
and much more!

10.00am-3.00pm

£1 per child

Packed lunch & snacks provided

Open to children aged 7-13yrs (yrs 3-8)

Completed consent form needed to take part

Only 20 spaces – Book now to avoid
disappointment



Application forms from:

Sarah Fells in School, Youth Saints or email
sheilajones.nbvlttd@gmail.com
www.gainfordwinston.church

COLLECT for EASTER SUNDAY

Lord of all life and power,
who through the mighty resurrection of your Son
overcame the old order of sin and death
to make all things new in him:
grant that we, being dead to sin
and alive to you in Jesus Christ,
may reign with him in glory;
to whom with you and the Holy Spirit
be praise and honour, glory and might,
now and in all eternity. Amen

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

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. Amen

First Reading – Acts 10:34-43

³⁴ 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.'

The EASTER Gospel: John 20:1-18

¹ Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, 'They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him.' Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went towards the tomb. The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, and the cloth that had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. Then the disciples returned to their homes.

But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. They said to her, 'Woman, why are you weeping?' She said to them, 'They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him.' When she had said this, she turned round and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to her, 'Woman, why are you weeping? For whom are you looking?' Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, 'Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away.' Jesus said to her, 'Mary!' She turned and said to him in Hebrew, 'Rabbouni!' (which means Teacher). Jesus said to her, 'Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, "I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God."' Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, 'I have seen the Lord'; and she told them that he had said these things to her.