

## EASTER

Easter morning does not arrive quietly. It breaks in. Not gently, not politely, but like light forcing its way through a crack you thought was sealed. The stone is not just rolled away from a tomb long ago; it is rolled away from all the places we have carefully closed off, all the places where we have said, "This is finished. This cannot change."

And yet here is the unsettling truth of Easter: God does not respect our conclusions.

We become experts at endings. We name them, organise them, accept them.

"This relationship is over."

"This part of my life is done."

"This hope is unrealistic."

“

This wound will always define me.”

Easter interrupts all of that. It doesn't deny the cross. It doesn't pretend the suffering was not real. The wounds remain. But they are no longer the final word. That is where Easter becomes personal and challenging. Because it asks something uncomfortable of us: Where have I decided that resurrection is no longer possible? Not in theory, not in theology but in the quiet, guarded places of our own lives.

Where have I stopped expecting God to act? Where have I accepted a smaller life than the one God is offering? Where have I chosen control over trust, certainty over hope?

The resurrection of Christ is not simply an event to admire, it is a reality that presses in on us, asking to be lived.

It means that despair is never as final as it feels. It means that failure is not identity. It means that love, even when buried, is never lost.

But it also means we must be willing to be surprised.

The women went to the tomb expecting to tend to death. Instead, they were asked to carry life.

And perhaps that is where we stand this Easter, not at the end of a story, but at the edge of something we didn't plan, didn't expect, and cannot yet fully understand.

Resurrection is rarely comfortable. It asks us to let go of what we thought we knew, to step into something we cannot control, to trust that God is already at work in places we had given up on.

So today, don't rush past the wonder. Stand for a moment at the empty tomb of your own life. Look honestly at what you thought was finished. And then, just for a moment, allow the possibility that God is not finished at all.

A word from Jerry Lee the cat:

"I don't pretend to understand everything about empty tombs and rising from the dead. But I do know this, sometimes what looks like the end of the food bowl is not the end at all. Someone comes along, fills it again, and there you are... surprised, grateful, and slightly humbled. So perhaps the lesson is this: stay near, stay watchful, and don't wander too far off when things look empty. You never know when something wonderful might appear.

Also, if resurrection involves breakfast... I am absolutely in favour."



ST, BENEDICT'S CATHOLIC CHURCH  
OWEN STREET  
ATHERSTONE  
WARWICKSHIRE CV9 1DG  
Priest: 07891 822770  
Office: 07502 320487  
website: [stbenedictsatherstone.org](http://stbenedictsatherstone.org)  
email: [office@stbenedictsatherstone.org](mailto:office@stbenedictsatherstone.org)

### THIS WEEK

Sat 4 <sup>th</sup> April	Holy Saturday. Easter Vigil	7.00pm
Sun 5 <sup>th</sup> April	Easter Sunday- Solemnity of the Resurrection of the Lord	9.30am
Mon 6 <sup>th</sup> April	Easter Monday, Solemnity <b>Mass At Our Lady of the Angles Nuneaton</b> (Parishioners are welcome to attend).	10.0am.
Wed 8 <sup>th</sup> April	Easter Wednesday , Solemnity	10.0am
Fri 10 <sup>th</sup> April	Easter Friday , Solemnity	10.0am
Sat 11 <sup>th</sup> April	Easter Saturday , Solemnity	4,00pm
Sun 12 <sup>th</sup> April	Second Sunday of Easter	9.300am

**Safeguarding:** The Parish operates in accordance with Statutory Safeguarding Guidance and the national and Archdiocese policies & procedures at all times. Our Parish Safeguarding Representative is  
**Mrs. Jo Currie who can be contacted at**  
[sg.stbenedict.atherstone@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:sg.stbenedict.atherstone@rcaob.org.uk)

**For Your Diary**  
**Milestone events in 2026 in our parish**

**First Holy Communion** Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> June at 10.30am

**Confirmation** Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> June at 6.00pm.

**CHINTHOWA Development Trust**

Would like to thank all our supporters of the Easter Appeal for the Feeding Programme.

**Chinthowa Easter cards raised £160**

**Chinthowa Easter Raffle raised £270**

A list of prize winners is in the porch

**FIRST HOLY COMMUNION & CONFIRMATION**



If there are any children in **Year 3 and above** who wish to make their **First Holy Communion** on **June 6<sup>th</sup>** and **DO NOT** attend **St. Benedict's School &** if there are any children in **Year 6** who wish to make their **Confirmation** on **June 30<sup>th</sup>** and **DO NOT** attend **St. Benedict's School.** Parents will you please get in touch on **07502240034** in order that instruction on the sacraments may be arranged.

*Please pray for those whose anniversaries fall at this time;*

*John O'Keefe, Madge Harris, Lizzie Boulstridge, Elizabeth (Betty) Daniels, Sheila Adamson, Phillip Joseph Daniels, Lewis Augustine Baines, Olive Wood.*

*Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord...*

**Divine Mercy Sunday**

will be celebrated on **Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> April.**

In order to obtain the blessings promised by Jesus to St Faustina please commence the Novena of The Chaplet of

Divine Mercy on Good Friday.

Jesus said to St Faustina

“The soul that will go to confession and receive Holy Communion (on Mercy Sunday)) shall obtain complete forgiveness of sins and punishment.”

Confession can be the day before Mercy Sunday.

**Divine Mercy leaflets are available.**

**Collections**

Last week's collection details will be available Next Week

**Collections this weekend are for the Priest.**  
**Just one collection on Saturday and one on Sunday.**

**TODAY -EASTER SUNDAY**

**Easter Egg Hunt**

Easter Sunday there will be an Easter Egg Hunt for the children after 9.30am Mass

See poster opposite

