



Sunday 27th April 2025 — Easter 2

WORSHIP TODAY

10:30am	St Peter, Bromyard	Holy Communion
3:00pm	Brockhampton Chapel	Evening Prayer
6:30pm	St Peter & St Paul, Stoke Lacy Sanctuary	
	St Peter, Bromyard	Come to the River

TODAY'S READINGS

Morning: Exodus 14.10-end; 15.20, 21; Acts 5.27-32;
Psalm 118.14-29 or Psalm 150;
Revelation 1.4-8; John 20.19-31

Evening: Psalm 16; Isaiah 52.13 - 53.12;
Luke 24.13-35

COLLECT FOR EASTER 2

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.

REFLECTION: Easter 2

In his delightful book, 'The God Delusion', Richard Dawkins rails against unquestioning faith.

In his atheist world, everything must be evidence based, able to stand up to rigorous, scientific investigation. The 'problem' with religious people, people of faith, is that they just don't think – that is, according to Dawkins.

Dear Mr Dawkins, may I introduce you to Thomas.

Despite all his friends saying that they had seen the risen Jesus, Thomas was adamant:

"Unless I see the nail marks in His hands and put my finger where the nails were, and put my hand into His side, I will not believe it."

This is not 'Doubting Thomas'; this is 'Independent Thinking Thomas'. Rather than get caught up in the group hysteria, Thomas wanted evidence, he wanted to think it through for himself. He was a disciple of Brian, whose central message is:

'You're all individuals. You're all different. You've got to work it out for yourselves.'

So Thomas was prepared to question. And hence tradition has labelled him 'Doubter'.

But doubt is not necessarily negative. Doubt is not a failing, not a falling away from faith. In order to doubt, you have to have some form of belief. Doubt can lead to creatively rethinking, reevaluating what we think and believe. Faith is the resolution of doubt.

The problem for Richard Dawkins to resolve is that people of faith ask a lot of questions, have often struggled with their faith, have been through periods of doubt, and are, as a result, more sure of their faith.

So, from me, a big thank you to Richard Dawkins for 'The God Delusion'. Having read it, I am all the more sure of what I hope for and more certain of what I do not see.

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again!

ALLELUIA, CHRIST IS RISEN!

HE IS RISEN INDEED, ALLELUIA!

Rev Phil

Wednesday 30th April 2025		READINGS – Easter 2 <i>Morning:</i> Psalm 30; Zephaniah 3.14-end; Acts 9.1-6 [7-20]; Revelation 5.11-14; John 21.1-19 <i>Evening:</i> Psalm 86; Isaiah 38.9-20; John 11.[17-26] 27-44
10:00am	St Peter, Bromyard Prayers	
Sunday 4th May 2025—Easter 3		
10:00am	Kempson Playing Fields Party in the Park	
6:30pm	St Peter, Bromyard Holy Communion	

FOOD FOR ALL
Food for All is holding ‘Taster Sessions’ for potential volunteers on Saturday 26th April, 10:30am-12:30pm. If you’d be interested, just pop along!

PEBBLES
Our Parent and Toddler group, Pebbles, will be re-starting after the Easter break on Monday 28th April, 10:00am in the Falcon Mews. Please do pray for David, Betty, Margaret, and Jenny as they lead this, and for the parents and children, that they might come to know something of the love of God for themselves.

PARTY IN THE PARK
This years Party in the Park runs from Saturday 3rd to Sunday 4th May at Kempson Playing Fields. On Sunday 4th May we will be holding our worship at Party in the Park at 10:00am. This will be a great opportunity for us to engage with our community. The music group will be leading the worship from the main stage with well-known hymns and songs plus a few surprises!
There will be a Communion service at 6:30pm that evening for us to pray for all those who we met and had conversations with.

ASCENSION
Ascension Day falls on Thursday 29th May. We will be holding a special Holy Communion for Ascension at 7:00pm at St Peter & St Paul, Stoke Lacy—outside if the weather is good enough!

SCARECROW FESTIVAL
St Peter’s will be participating in Bromyard Scarecrow Festival again this year. The Festival takes place from 13th to 15th June and we should like not only to have a scarecrow in church, but also to take part in the themed parade on Friday 13th. This is a lovely opportunity for us to be part of a popular community event, and to attract people into our beautiful building as part of the town trail. The theme this year is ‘Games’ and we have opted for ‘Netball’. For this to be successful, we’d really like to get as many of you involved as possible in any (or all!) of the following ways:
Helping get the scarecrow ready on Friday morning (meeting at The Vicarage at 10.30am) – everything will be provided (including a cuppa!)
Taking part in the parade (leaving from St Peter’s churchyard at 7pm) you could be a netball player or a referee – we’ve got some netball bibs, headbands, some balls and even a portable(ish!) hoop, so all you need is a tracksuit or something similarly sporty! We’d like at least one team but ideally two!
Helping set up the scarecrow at the back of church on Saturday morning (10.30am)
Contact Natalie if you’d like to help – 01885 498200.

BROMYARD FOODBANK
Items urgently needed this week:
Tinned vegetables, chocolate biscuits, coffee, jam & spreads, pasta, tinned tomatoes, UHT milk, cereal,

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:
Margaret Hamilton-Herbert, Elizabeth & Trevor Elliott, Alan Seabrook, Peter Cliff, Carole Hughes, Josie Robins, Zoe, Jennifer & Judy, Joy Patten
Recently bereaved: the families of Netti Evans, Claire Hollis, Peder Nielson, Revd Michael Smith, TJ Biddle, Mary Watkins, Don Griffiths, Rachel ‘Hartwright’, Malcolm Sheail; Louise Spinks, Richard Orgee, Pauline Cooke, Josie Robins
Wedding Couples: Henry Henshall & Sofi Buzzard; Ryan Skyrme & Jenna Arnold; Martyn Craddock & Amberley Schuck
Baptisms: Chester Davis, Mya Cox

CONTACTS
Revd Philip Miller - Vicar (rest day—Monday)
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Revd David Hall - Curate (rest day-Friday)
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The Parish Office is open Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 9:30am-12noon 01885 483749 admin@stpetersbromyard.org.uk

Parish website: <https://stpetersbromyard.org.uk/> Find us on:  