

St John's Church, Ranmoor



**Update following
Holy week & Easter**

Dear Friends,

For now the winter is past, the rain is over and gone. The flowers appear on the earth; the time of singing has come, and the voice of the turtle-dove is heard in our land.

Song of Solomon 2.11,12

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, who are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

1 Peter 1.3-5

We hope you will enjoy this month's box of goodies from St John's. As restrictions have slowly started to be relaxed, it has been wonderful to be able to have a small team of cooks in the Parish Centre kitchen producing delicious treats for you.

We are already making plans for when we will all be able to gather again for lunch in person in the Parish Centre and I hope to be able to share more news with you about this in the next newsletter.

Thank you to Claire for putting together a photographic digest of all that has been going on in and around St John's in Holy Week. It really felt like we were emerging from a period of darkness into Christ's resurrection light – particularly with Sunday's dazzling sunshine. It has been lovely to be able to have small groups back singing in church and an in-person congregation at our services throughout Holy Week.

Easter celebrations started on the evening of Holy Saturday with the Easter Vigil at 8.00pm. We gathered outside church at dusk amidst the birdsong to light the new fire of Easter and, from it, the paschal candle. The vicar, clearly an expert boy scout in his youth, had prepared the brazier splendidly and a roaring blaze quickly took hold, causing the deacon to take evasive action. The light was carried into church where we listened by candlelight to the ancient stories of our faith.

On Easter morning the church was bathed in sunshine and the scent of lilies from the beautiful displays prepared by our flower team. After the service the children (and some less young people) enjoyed an Easter egg hunt in the church grounds.

Next month's newsletter will be about favourite pieces of art, so do please have a think about that and let us know if you've got a favourite picture or sculpture that we could feature in the May edition.

God bless,

Matt

Revd matt Wood, Asst Curate



The Children making the Easter Garden



Lilies that were in church in memory of our loved ones.

Some photos from the children's Treasure hunt which took place after the church service on Sunday:



Some Pictures from Easter Sunday in Church



Some crafts that the children in church created during the morning service:



We hope that you had a Happy Easter.
See you soon
With Love from
All At St John's