



# St John the Evangelist, Dormansland

Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2026 – Lent 5

## Today's Hymns:

### Introit

124 – *Father of heaven, whose love profound*

### Offertory

133 – *Firmly I believe and truly*

### Communion

53 – *Be still for the presence of the Lord*

### Post Communion

481 – *The head that once was crowned with thorns*

### Collect

Gracious Father, you gave up your Son out of love for the world: lead us to ponder the mysteries of his passion, that we may know eternal peace through the shedding of our Saviour's blood, Jesus Christ our Lord.

### Readings

#### First Reading – Romans 8:6-11

To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law—indeed, it cannot, and those who are in the flesh cannot please God. But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. But if Christ is in you, then the body is dead because of sin, but the Spirit is life because of righteousness. If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus

from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

## **Gospel Reading – John 11:1-45**

Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. Mary was the one who anointed the Lord with perfume and wiped his feet with her hair; her brother Lazarus was ill. So the sisters sent a message to Jesus, "Lord, he whom you love is ill." But when Jesus heard it, he said, "This illness does not lead to death; rather, it is for God's glory, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it."

Accordingly, though Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, after having heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was. Then after this he said to the disciples, "Let us go to Judea again." The disciples said to him, "Rabbi, the Jews were just now trying to stone you, and are you going there again?" Jesus answered, "Are there not twelve hours of daylight? Those who walk during the day do not stumble because they see the light of this world. But those who walk at night stumble because the light is not in them." After saying this, he told them,

"Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I am going there to awaken him." The disciples said to him, "Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will be all right." Jesus, however, had been speaking about his death, but they thought that he was referring merely to sleep. Then Jesus told them plainly, "Lazarus is dead. For your sake I am glad I was not

there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him." Thomas, who was called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, "Let us also go, that we may die with him." When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. Now

Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away, and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them about their brother. When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home. Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him." Jesus said to her, "Your

brother will rise again." Martha said to him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day." Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?" She said to him, "Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world."

When she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary and told her privately, "The Teacher is here and is calling for you." And when she heard it, she got up quickly and went to him. Now Jesus had not yet come to the village but was still at the place where Martha had met him. The Jews who were with her in the house consoling her saw Mary get up quickly and go out. They followed her because they thought that she was going to the tomb to weep there. When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died." When Jesus saw her weeping and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. He said, "Where have you laid him?" They said to him, "Lord, come and see." Jesus began to weep. So the Jews said, "See how he loved him!" But some of them said, "Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man

from dying?" Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, "Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead four days." Jesus said to her, "Did I not tell you that if you believed you would see the glory of God?" So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upward and said, "Father, I thank you for having heard me. I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me." When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, "Unbind him, and let him go." Many of the Jews, therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what Jesus did believed in him.

## **Morning Prayer**

9am Monday - Thursday on Zoom the link

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81989590555?pwd=MUNnb0NwaUpUbHBiMnQzVm9wd0Q4UT09> Passcode 149674

## **Compline on Zoom**

Wednesday 8pm – Link is:

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/74615258857?pwd=QXfPyoDEbLeuxPq5sCNBcQDsfcgyX.1>

**Meeting ID:** 746 1525 8857

**Passcode:** compline

## **Online Home Group Gathering**

Join Melinda for a contemplative-focussed home group that meets every other Wednesday from 11:00am to 12:00pm on Zoom.

**25/3, 8/4, 22/4, 6/5, 20/5, BREAK, 10/6, 24/6**

This is a space for reflection, connection, and quiet encouragement on our journey of faith. All are welcome.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83085759497?pwd=YIUmUGGMAT8slzZNg0VbjYgZ2ivQZD.1>

**Meeting ID:** 830 8575 9497

**Passcode:** 57N5yU

## One off Events

### **Meeting Up Together**

We need volunteers to provide cake (homemade or shop bought) on Tuesdays 21st April, 18th May & 16th June.

Please put your name on the rota at the back of the church if you can help, thanks. Annie R.

### **AMEN-GERS MUSIC BAND**

St. John's Dormansland - SUNDAY 3rd  
MAY 2026

Play the First Hymn on the First Sunday  
10am All age Service, Children/Adults  
Beginners/Advanced

All are welcome to join in!

For details email [mary.ilett@iCloud.com](mailto:mary.ilett@iCloud.com)

Or just turn up at 9:40am

Children must be accompanied by a responsible adult.

### **Lent Lunches**

On the first and last Sundays of Lent there will be a 'Lent Lunch' for all who would like to stay after the morning service for a brief reflection from Revd Annie followed by soup, bread and cheese, in the Centenary Room.

**29th March**, 11.45am  
Lenten Reflection, 12  
noon Lunch.

Please sign up at the back of the church to help and/or attend or speak to Kathy Cobby for more details.

### **Easter Services**

**Sunday 29th March** - 10am Palm Sunday

**Thursday 2nd April** - 7pm Maundy Thursday Service

**Friday 3rd April** - 2pm-4pm All Age Good Friday  
Stations to visit, 8pm Night Prayer

**Sunday 5th April** - 10am All Age Easter Day Service  
followed by Easter Egg hunt in the churchyard

### **Easter Day**

We are in need of donations of Easter eggs of any size for our Easter Egg hunt after the Easter Day service.  
Please see Revd Annie

### **St John's Electoral Role Revision**

From **29th March until 12th April** the electoral roll of St John's is being revised. There will be forms at the back of the church or please ask Kathy Cobby for more information and/or if you would like to come onto the electoral roll.

### **2026**

2026 holds some exciting new or different-to-usual ventures for St John's and we would love any help you can offer!

**Open The Book:** We are going to be taking a team into Dormansland School once or twice a term to do some Open the Book assemblies. The book being, of course, The Bible. If you would like to be part of this team, please talk to Revd Annie asap.

**Bubble Church:** This is a new style of Children's service which includes puppets, Bible stories and action songs. Our first Bubble Church service will be Sunday 3rd May at 9am in the Centenary Room and every first Sunday of the month thereafter. If you would like to join the Bubble team, please come and talk to Revd Annie.