

The United Benefice of Cogenhoe and Great Houghton
and Little Houghton with Brafield on the Green

www.theunitedbenefice.org.uk

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Walk
in the
LIGHT
of the
LORD

see John 3:19-21

Sunday
22 April 2018

The Fourth
Sunday of
Easter

COLLECT

Almighty God, whose Son Jesus Christ is the resurrection and the life, raise us, who trust in him, from the death of sin to the life of righteousness, that we may seek those things which are above, where he reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

POST COMMUNION

Merciful Father, you gave your Son Jesus Christ to be the good shepherd, and in his love for us to lay down his life and rise again, keep us always under his protection, and give us grace to follow in his steps, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Diary of Events this week

Monday 23 April

George, Martyr, Patron of England, c. 304

6.45 p.m. Choir Practice

7.45 p.m. Bell Ringing Practice, Cogenhoe

Tuesday 24 April

Wednesday 25 April

Mark the Evangelist

7.45 p.m. Bell Ringing Practice, Brafield

Thursday 26 April

8.00 a.m. Said Eucharist, Cogenhoe

Friday 27 April

Christina Rossetti, Poet, 1894

Saturday 28 April

Peter Chanel, Missionary, Martyr, 1841

Sunday 29 April

The Fifth Sunday of Easter

10.00 a.m. - 4.00 p.m. Benefice Study Day, Cogenhoe

6.00 p.m. Sung Evensong, Little Houghton

Daily Reading

Josh 1.1-9

Exod 32.15-34

Isa 62.6010

Exod 34.1-10, 27-end

Exod 35.20—36.7

Exod 40.17-end

Exod 12.1-14

1 Cor 11.23-26

Jn 13.1-17,31-35

Benefice Together Day
Sunday 29th April 10:00am – 4:00pm
“Come to the Table”

Have you ever wondered **why** the church and vicar are dressed in a particular colour? Or **what** is the significance of the different candles in church? This is a day to deepen our understanding of our worship by unpacking the meaning of the traditions we have. As well as sharing in the ritual meal of the Holy Communion we will also enjoy fellowship together over a Bring and Share lunch.

Father God, we pray for all those who are facing sickness in their bodies or minds. Especially Peter Roberts, Tony Newton, Ron Corin, Doreen Gibson, Ann Cadd, James Clegg, Marion Scarboro



Soothe their pain and ease their worry.
Give them your peace and comfort. **Amen.**

Please pray for all who have died in the faith of Christ and whose anniversaries fall at this time

THE GOSPEL - John 10:11-18

Jesus said, "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away—and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father."

Eventually all the pieces fall into place.
Until then, laugh at the confusion, live for the moment and know that everything happens for a reason.

FIRST READING - Psalm 23

The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not be in want. He makes me lie down in green pastures and leads me beside still waters. He revives my soul and guides me along right pathways for his Name's sake. Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me. You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me; you have anointed my head with oil, and my cup is running over. Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever.

SECOND READING - Acts 4:5-12

The rulers, elders, and scribes assembled in Jerusalem, with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. When they had made the prisoners stand in their midst, they inquired, "By what power or by what name did you do this?" Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, "Rulers of the people and elders, if we are questioned today because of a good deed done to someone who was sick and are asked how this man has been healed, let it be known to all of you, and to all the people of Israel, that this man is standing before you in good health by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead. This Jesus is 'the stone that was rejected by you, the builders; it has become the cornerstone.' There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved."

The trouble with having an open mind, of course, is that people will insist on coming along and trying to put things in it.

Terry Pratchett