

# Worthing Deanery Prayer

The theme of this week 24<sup>th</sup> April 2017.

Easter peace be  
with you.



## Reflection

On Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> April we heard the story of Jesus appearing twice to his disciples in the upper room in Jerusalem. St John tells us that the disciples including Mary and the other women were hiding behind closed doors for fear of being arrested by the Jewish authorities when all of a sudden Jesus appeared to them in the middle of the room. He said, "Peace be with you." He showed them the wounds in his hands and side, then repeated his greeting, "Peace be with you." They were filled with joy to see him. He told them that he was sending them out into the world once they had received the Holy Spirit and then he disappeared. St Thomas was not in the room at the time and I like to imagine that he was out buying food in Jerusalem for his friends. Thomas did not believe his fellow disciples when they told him that Jesus had risen and appeared to them. He would not believe until he could put his fingers in the wounds of Jesus. Then, eight days later Thomas was present when Jesus appeared to them again. This time Jesus said to our doubting Thomas, "Put your finger here, put your hand into my side!" Thomas did so and proclaimed, "My Lord and my God!" As an Easter People we are asked to believe in Jesus and the transforming power of Almighty God in our lives and during the 50 days of Easter ahead perhaps our prayer should simple be: "My Lord and my God!" A very Happy Easter to all of you.

## Prayer

Almighty and ever-living God, through the suffering, death and resurrection of your Son may we come to learn that your love for us is without end. May we show this love within our schools and families during this Easter season. Amen.

## From the bible

“Peace be with you’, said Jesus.

‘My Lord and my God’, replied Thomas.”