Readings for 18th April, The Third Sunday of Easter:

Acts 3:12-19; Psalm 4; Luke 24:36b-48.

Collect: Almighty Father, who in your great mercy gladdened the disciples with the sight of the risen Lord: give us such knowledge of his presence with us,

that we may be strengthened and sustained by his risen life and serve you continually in righteousness and truth; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Next Sunday's readings, 25th April: The Fourth Sunday of Easter: Acts 4:5-12; Psalm 23; John 10:11-18.

Verse for the week

'(Jesus) opened their minds to understand the scriptures.' (Luke 24:45)

St Aidan's Verse for 2021

'My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.' (2 Corinthians 12:9)

Right Reverend Dr Guli Francis-Dehqani will become the next Bishop of Chelmsford on 19th April, but will not move until the summer. In early September it is hoped to hold a public Welcome and Installation service for Bishop Guli in the Cathedral. Do pray for her as she prepares for the many challenges we face as a diocese.

Have you had a COVID vaccination? Would you consider making a donation to help others in poorer countries have a vaccine too? Two special appeals do this, Christian Aid and UNICEF (see their web-sites for details.)

Eternal God, our heavenly Father, we bless your holy name for all that you have given us in and through the life of **Philip, Duke of Edinburgh**.

We give you thanks for his long and full life; for his strength of character; and for his devotion and service to family, nation and Commonwealth. We praise you for his generosity; the many contributions he made to our national life; and the encouragement he gave to so many, specially to the young. Accept our thanks and praise, we pray, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Merciful God, be close to all who mourn, especially **The Queen** and all members of the Royal Family.

May they know the hope of your promises and the comfort of your love, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

In our intercessions, we are asked to remember those in need: Lucy and Katharine Watts, Julie Shute, Margaret Taylor, Tony Usher, Tony Mabbatt, Stuart Greenway, Callum Turner, Linda Chambers, Kim Herd, Elaine Turner, Lynee Wells, June Hipworth, John and Brenda Mangion, Violet Doyle, Dennis and Jean Pogose, Audrey Pegrum, Lee Jackson, Robert Saint, Anmarie Ayoub, Tammy Bartlett, Helen Bartlett, Muriel Hill, Lydia Petitt, Karen Kelidi, Eunice Walker, George and Hilda Pipes, Cara Japon, Christine Robinson, Pam Hyett, Peter Main, David Thomas, Ann Dick and all those affected by the coronavirus.

We also remember those recently departed: Shirley Danbrook and HRH Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh.

and HRH Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh.

and those whose anniversaries occur this week:

Matthew Hawkes, Frank Bartlett, Henry Hawkins,
Paul Brooks, David Lydamore, Liz Clouting,
Beulah Hatch, George Edghill, Rose Brandon.

We also remember those living in residential care or who are housebound and less able to get to Church: Joyce Rippin, Dennis and Jean Jones, John Jones, Betty Burton, Pat Welch, Margaret Brooks, Dot Bartlett, Joyce Edghill.