

THE PARISH CHURCH OF

ST JOHN



THE DIVINE

BROOKLANDS • SALE



50p

April 2019

From the Editor

So after last month's deliberate mistake, here's hoping that there are no howlers in April's magazine. Mrs Editor has proof read so, if there are any, then I am absolved from responsibility.

Although this is the 'Easter' edition, the timing of Easter this year means that it occurs only a few days before the May magazine is published. Many of you will read this before Mother's Day and, as I write, we are only just into Lent. So apologies if much of what is included this month seems a tad premature. Richard comments on his love of Easter and invites us to a Sunrise Service. During April there are some wonderful services available and details are given throughout the magazine. Do attend some. Or even all!

The Anniversary of the ordination of the first women priests was highlighted in the last edition. Jill Chandler noted that at St John's we received one of the first curates, Betty McNiven. Coincidentally there is an invitation from the first female priest to celebrate the eucharist at St John's, Olwyn Marlow, in this edition.

We have most of the usual features with this month plus some Easter trivia with which you can test family members. On the trivia front, having Easter on 21st April is not the latest date it can occur. Easter falls on the first Sunday after the first full moon that occurs after the Spring Equinox (March 21st). It can occur as early as 22nd March therefore but hasn't since 1818 and won't do so again until 2285. The latest it can occur is April 25th. This happened in 1943 and will again in 2038. It will next occur on April 21st in 2030.

While we can have Easter 'trivia', for Christians, Easter is not trivial. It is the bedrock of our faith. Good Friday provides a way in which our sins are forgiven and, on Easter Sunday, as our sorrow turns to joy we remember that we are a Resurrection People.

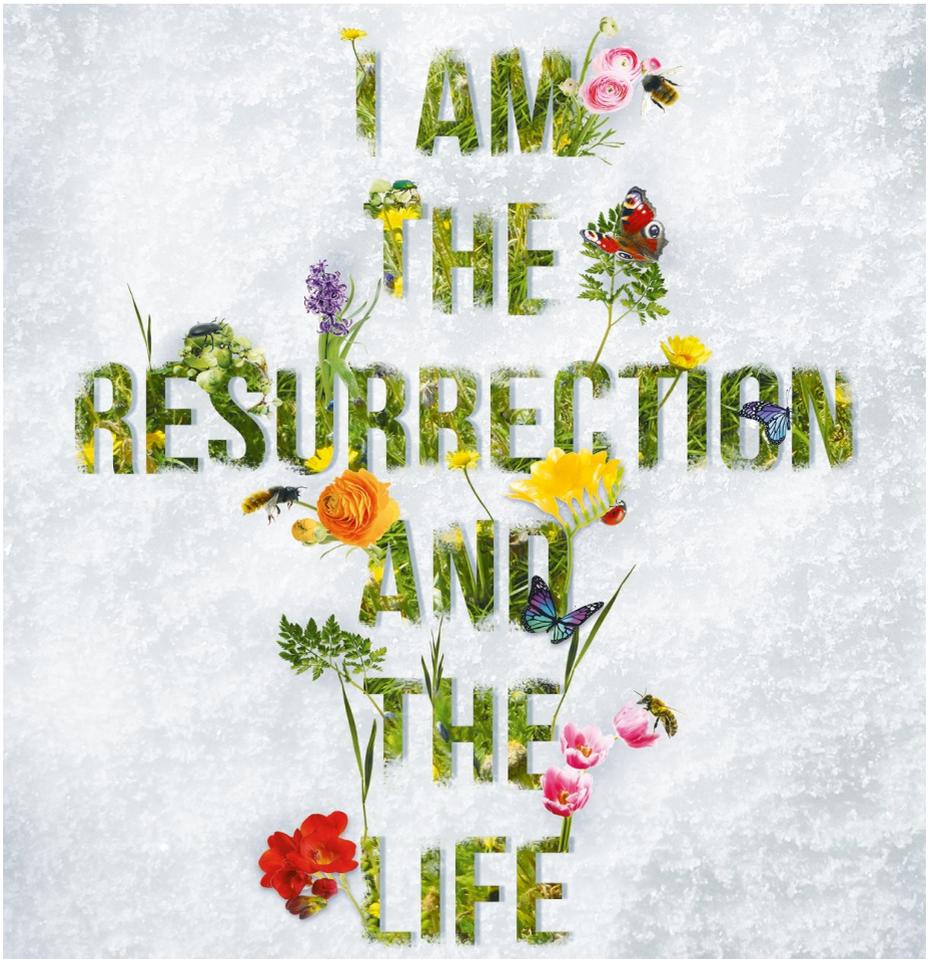
*No more we doubt thee, glorious Prince of life;
life is naught without thee: aid us in our strife;
make us more than conquerors, thro' thy deathless love;
bring us safe thro' Jordan to thy home above.*

*Thine be the glory, risen, conqu'ring Son;
endless is the vict'ry thou o'er death hast won.*

Sharper eyed readers comparing this to the print version will notice that there is some colour in the online edition. The plan is to develop a more interesting online version with photographs and links. There is also some extra content in the online version. Do please pass on the link. At some stage we might be able to get to a more interactive media experience (jargon, sorry) but that is a way off. But for now you can watch 'Thine Be The Glory' from Songs of Praise in this youtube clip.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bPjTfw4a2ZE>

The Editor



Richard writes...

The Christian faith is an Easter faith, without Easter and what we celebrate on this day is at the core of what we believe as Christians. I love Easter! One of the highlights for me is the sunrise service, gathering at dawn before morning has broken to kindle a new fire. As dawn breaks we process into church lighting the Easter Candle and from this our handheld candles are lit. At this point the hairs on the back of my neck stand up since it is here we join in the *Exsultet*:

*It is right and good that
with hearts and minds and
voices we should praise
you, Father almighty, the
unseen God, through your
only Son, Jesus Christ our
Lord, who has saved us by
his death, paid the price of
Adam's sin, and reconciled
us once again to you.*

*For this is the Passover
feast,
when Christ, the true Lamb
of God, is slain whose
blood consecrates the
homes of all the faithful.*

*This is the night when you
first saved our ancestors,
freeing Israel from her
slavery
and leading her safely
through the sea.*

*This is the night when
Jesus Christ vanquished
hell, broke the chains of
death and rose triumphant
from the grave.*

*This is the night when all
who believe in him are
freed from sin, restored to
grace and holiness, and
share the victory of Christ.*

*This is the night that gave us
back what we had lost;
beyond our deepest dreams
you made even our sin a
happy fault.*

*Most blessed of all nights!
Evil and hatred are put to
flight and sin is washed away,
lost innocence regained, and
mourning turned to joy.*

*Night truly blessed, when
hatred is cast out, peace and
justice find a home, and
heaven is joined to earth and
all creation reconciled to you.*

*Therefore, heavenly Father,
in this our Easter joy accept
our sacrifice of praise, your
Church's solemn offering.
Grant that this Easter Candle
may make our darkness light.*

*For Christ the morning star
has risen in glory; Christ is
risen from the dead and his
flame of love still burns
within us! Christ sheds his
peaceful light on all the
world! Christ lives and reigns
for ever and ever!*

I do hope that you will come along to our sunrise service this year, please don't let the time put you off. For many Christians around the world and through time, this has been *the* Easter celebration. Our service begins at 6am (gather from 5.45) and let the drama of the resurrection unfold as we get swept up into God's story: as the sun rises so we rejoice and give thanks for the risen Son.

In what follows I offer a reflection upon the *Exsultet* which I hope you read and enjoy, but for now may I wish you and your loved ones a happy Easter: Christ is risen!

If you've decided to read on I commend you! In what follows I offer four observations on the *Exsultet* to enrich our celebration of Easter this year. Let us allow the *Exsultet* to act like a crystal refracting the single beam of Christ into a rainbow of colour: green speaks of a **New Adam**, blue of a **New Israel**, red of a **New Passover**, and a royal purple suggests *Christus Victor*, the victorious Christ.

Green - New Adam

As the *Exsultet* begins we find reference to Adam and our minds are cast backwards to the opening of Genesis where the story of Adam and Eve is told. It is a story that has captured the hearts and minds of many and which has been told and re-told in various forms and guises, Milton's *Paradise Lost* becoming a classic. In the New Testament Jesus is portrayed as being the one who undoes what Adam did.

In theological jargon, we can speak of recapitulation and it finds classic expression in Irenaeus (ca. 125-202). The idea is that when Adam fell through his disobedience of God the whole of humanity fell with him, since he functioned as our representative. Jesus, however, also acts as a representative and he - unlike Adam - obeys God and so restores humanity. In this way, Jesus 'gave us back what we had lost;' namely, 'lost innocence regained'. This seems to be exactly what the apostle Paul is getting at in the fifth chapter of Romans: 'just as through the disobedience of the one man the many were made sinners, so also through the obedience of the one man the many will be made righteous' (v. 19).

It also seems to be the significance of the story of Jesus' temptation in the wilderness (Mk. 1:12-13). In the story of Adam in the Garden we find Adam being tested by a snake representing Satan and we know that Adam ultimately failed the test. Likewise, in the wilderness, Jesus was tested by Satan and Jesus was victorious, he passed the test with flying colours. In presenting Jesus in this way, both Paul and Mark are showing that Jesus is a New Adam and this was not lost upon those responsible for the *Exsultet*.

Blue - New Israel

Not only is Jesus a New Adam he is also quite clearly portrayed as a New Israel. We have just seen how the story of Jesus in the wilderness retold the story of Adam being tested in the Garden, but I'm sure you would also have picked up allusions to the story of Israel in the wilderness. Israel was tested forty years in the wilderness and Jesus was tested in the wilderness for forty days.

The obedience of Jesus is, however, in stark contrast with Israel's rebellion and disobedience (Num. 1-7, 13-14). Jesus succeeded where Israel failed. Now think about when this testing occurred! The testing of Israel in the wilderness was preceded by Israel crossing the Red Sea, which Paul calls their being 'baptized into Moses' (1 Cor. 10:2). Jesus was tested in the desert immediately after he was baptized by John in the river Jordan. Jesus' story of being baptized in water and then tested in the wilderness mirrors Israel's story of being baptized in water and then tested in the wilderness. At his own baptism, Jesus is representing and retelling of Israel's exodus. Little wonder then, that the writers of the *Exsultet* describe Easter as 'the night when you first saved our ancestors, freeing Israel from her slavery and leading her safely through the sea.'

This partly helps to explain why Baptism has been so closely associated with Easter celebrations. Commenting upon Paul's treatment of baptism in Romans 6, Tom Wright says: 'Baptism then becomes the Exodus moment, the equivalent of the Red Sea for the renewed people of God. Just as Paul speaks of the Israelites being baptized into Moses when crossing the Red Sea...so here the whole renewed people is baptized into the Messiah. His dying and rising were the real Passover and Exodus...now all his people are the truly liberated ones.'

Red - New Passover

The fifth chapter of Brant Pitre's book *Jesus and the Last Supper* is entitled 'The New Passover' and is well worth reading. In it Pitre explores the ways in which the Eucharist can be said to be a Passover meal. What is significant is that the Eucharist is a New Passover in so far as it is a retelling of Jesus' own story in which he plays the part of the New Passover. The *Exsultet* says 'this is the Passover feast, when Christ, the true Lamb of God, is slain whose blood consecrates the homes of all the faithful.' Again, the authors are drawing upon the rich reflections of Christians in the early church, and Paul could say 'Christ our Passover has been sacrificed; therefore let us keep the feast' (1 Cor. 5:7-8).

The death of Jesus is described using the concept of the Passover which we read of in Exodus 12. The death of the lamb at Passover brought life and liberty to the people of Israel and the parallel is drawn with the death of Jesus also bringing life and liberty: in this case life is eternal life and the liberty is freedom from the powers of Sin and Death.

Christus Victor

This leads to our final colour: purple, the colour of royalty. Re-read the *Exsultet* and note how many times the language of victory is present. I get the following: 'saved', 'freeing', 'vanquished', 'triumphant', 'freed', 'restored', and 'victory'. This is the primary key in which Easter is sung and the death and resurrection of Christ celebrated. This way of understanding Jesus' death has been increasingly popular, especially since the publication of Gustav Aulen's book *Christus Victor* in 1931.

This view was also widespread in the early centuries of the church and so it is no surprise to find it in the *Exsultet*. In essence we are guided to think of the atonement as God's victory in Christ over the powers of evil. Once again it can be found in the Pauline writings where we read of God 'having disarmed the powers and authorities, he made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them by the cross' (Col. 2:15).

On Easter morning and throughout Eastertide we celebrate Christ's victory and as we reflect on these various themes found embedded within the *Exsultet* may we rejoice again and again that 'Christ lives and reigns for ever and ever!'

Richard



April
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God in the Arts



The National Gallery at Trafalgar Square in London houses one of the finest collections of European paintings in the world, with some 2,300 works spanning the centuries. During this year we are journeying through the gallery to explore one of those treasures each month. By the Rev Michael Burgess.

The Mond Crucifixion - by Raphael

This month's painting in the National Gallery is known as the Mond Crucifixion. It has an interesting history, because Ludwig Mond, the German born scientist and industrialist, offered to lend the painting to the Gallery in 1892. The trustees for some reason declined the offer. Ludwig Mond was undeterred and at his death in 1909 he bequeathed to the Gallery over 40 paintings. It was an amazingly generous gift, and included this Crucifixion by Raphael.

It belongs to the artist's early years and was painted when he was just 20, for a church altarpiece in Urbino in 1503. On Good Friday we hear those words from Lamentations, 'Is it nothing to you who pass by? - look and see.' We might look on the cross of Jesus and see a sign of agony and death. But here in the Mond Crucifixion, all seems serene and still. It is a far cry from the harshness and cruelty of the Gospel accounts. Look at the angels with their ribbons and feet resting on the clouds, the hands and feet of the four bystanders so delicately painted, and beyond, the softly lit Umbrian landscape with a river, trees and low hills stretching away into the distance.

It is as if Raphael has frozen this moment of death on his canvas to tell us that here is an enduring message of love and generosity for Mary, John, Mary Magdalene and Jerome gathered below. Our Lady and John look at us, inviting us to discover there the solemn beauty that moves their lives and that can move us.

In our worship on Good Friday we encounter this paradox of the cross - a sign of suffering and death, but a sign also of generosity. We can think of the generosity of Ludwig Mond, the generosity of Raphael sharing his gifts with us, but above all the generosity of our Prince of Glory. Here, in the words of Isaac Watts' hymn, we see how 'love so amazing, so divine, demands my soul, my life, my all.'

Rev. Michael Burgess

Some Quotes with Easter in mind...

Who delivered up Jesus to die? Not Judas, for money; not Pilate, for fear; not the Jews, for envy; but the Father, for love! - Octavious Winslow

The world cannot bury Christ. The earth is not deep enough for His tomb, the clouds are not wide enough for His winding-sheet. - Edward Thomson

Carry the cross patiently, and with perfect submission; and in the end it shall carry you. - Thomas a Kempis

The doctrine of the death of Christ is the substance of the gospel. - Stephen Charnock

The wounds of Christ were the greatest outlets of His glory that ever were. The divine glory shone more out of His wounds than out of all His life before. - Robert Murray M'Cheyne

EASTER

(Acrostic poem where the first letter of each line spells the word EASTER)

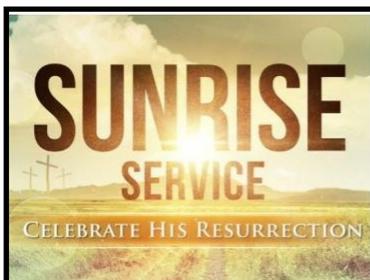
Even though the darkness raged
And all was still, the sun had gone
Still they shouted their abuse
Taunting Him - ' you're not God's Son!

Elijah hasn't rescued you,
Renounce your claim, you're just like me,
Everyone can see you hang
Arms outstretched, nailed to a tree'.

So it seemed that all was lost,
Their hopes their dreams forever gone

-
Eternity had other plans
Resurrection Day was soon to dawn.

By Megan Carter



Sunrise Service | 21st April @ 6am

This traditional service begins as we gather outside in darkness to light a fire before processing into church by candlelight to renew our baptismal promises. We'll hear the story of salvation before celebrating the first Eucharist of Easter. We'll be serving bacon and plenty of coffee afterwards!



Easter Celebration | 21st April @ 10.30

Come and celebrate the resurrection with us at this Communion service. Refreshments can be enjoyed afterwards!

Easter Café | 21st April @ 4.30pm

Join us for a special Café Church as we celebrate Easter including a special meal!

From the Archive

In 1919, as this year, Easter day fell late in the month. In that case on the 20th of April.

April 1919 was also the point at which St John's began to consider the best way in which to commemorate the sacrifice of those members of the parish who gave their lives during the Great War. That first meeting seems to have been sparsely attended but it decided to form a preliminary committee to consider the matter and report its suggestions, at a later date, to a general meeting of the congregation, to be called for that purpose.

On a lighter note, the Hon. Treasurer of the Parish Room thanked the ladies who "kindly promoted a whist drive for the parish room and informed them that after all expenses had been paid there was the excellent sum of 20 pounds in favour of the parish room".



April 2019



Mothering Sunday | 31st March

Join us at one of our services as we say thank you to God for our families and those who care for us, especially our mums.

10.30 - Parade Service: We'll be joined by our Uniformed Groups who will help lead the service. We shall also be handing out flowers during the service.

4.30 - Café Church: We'll make cards and flowers and celebrate together with a special meal.



Maundy Meal | 18th April @ 6pm

Come and Join us for a special meal (including a vegetarian option) as we remember the Last Supper which Jesus celebrated with his disciples. This is a *pay-as-you-can* event and tickets can be obtained from Richard or online: [eventbrite.co.uk/e/maundy-meal-tickets-57348702513](https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/maundy-meal-tickets-57348702513).

Mary Webster Writes

Do you know, I was a wee bit nervous of writing in this month's magazine. I can almost hear you say, what are you talking about woman, you know you can talk for the world sometimes and yes, I'm guilty as charged.

This month though, with having Richard as our 'Speaker', I wasn't sure where to start. Normally I've not met our guest previously so it's easy to just say it like it is. Don't get me wrong, it was lovely to welcome Richard and he couldn't have been nicer, but it is a tad daunting, nonetheless.

Here goes then, what did we expect? I had asked him to tell us about the journey he had to take before coming to St. John's and maybe he would like the opportunity to tell us how he saw things going forward in the future not just in relation to the Church but our Women's Fellowship in particular.

His journey to us was not as straightforward as I'd imagined but it was informative and entertaining at the same time. I'd assumed that most of the clergy had possibly felt they had a calling from an early age, but it was refreshing to realise that God can sometimes take his time in letting people know their true purpose in life.

When welcoming Richard, I said I'd seen questionnaires he'd prepared for us and told him that I don't do hard work. I realise now that he was not only talking to us but wanted to know (hence the questionnaire) why we have a Women's Fellowship, what we do now and what we are likely to do in the future. It can be difficult to visualise how we will be in 10 years, but the answer was, "we will be here doing our bit for Fellowship, trying to find ways to reach out to others by welcoming them as well as helping the wider community where we can. Last, but not least, we will enjoy ourselves with our friends and any other ladies who'd like to join us.

Richard was open to questions and we were not short of those and he coped well. Thank you, Richard, for being our 'Speaker' as well as leading the short service prior to our meeting, I appreciate that you have various calls on your time, but we have two very able ladies who have stepped into the breach, thank you Sue and Isobel.

On 24 April our topic is 'Beyond the Spots' when Dodie Smith will regale us with stories, facts etc about dalmatian dogs, at least that's what I think. I needn't have worried, as you can see I can still talk for the world.

An invitation from Olwyn



Dear friends

This year sees both the 30th anniversary of my admission to Holy Orders and the 25th anniversary of my ordination to the priesthood.

There will be a celebration of these milestones and my ministry at St. Anne's church on 19th May at 10.30.

As one of the first women to be ordained priest, I had the immense privilege of becoming the first women to ever celebrate the Eucharist in St. John's church. The church also played a significant part in my personal life as it was there that I met my husband Tim and it was in St. John's that we were married.

As you can see becoming curate at St. John's was a life changing experience.

I would be delighted if some of you would join us at St. Anne's on 19th May. The service will be followed by lunch in the church hall.

I very much look forward to seeing some of you at this celebration of ministry.

Love and prayers,

Olwyn Marlow

Editor's Note

On Thursday 2nd May 7.30-8.45pm, there is an Anniversary Service at the cathedral to celebrate 25 years of women's priestly ministry. The event is open to everybody but attendees are asked to register in advance for catering purposes. Womens25th.eventbrite.co.uk

Church Flowers

If you would like to make a donation for church flowers in memory of a loved one, a birthday or an anniversary, please contact Ruth Shaw on 973 9255 or Lynda Tattersall on 973 7140. A typical donation would be the equivalent cost of a bouquet delivered to someone's home.



Maundy Thursday Service | 18th April @ 8pm

A traditional service including Communion and the Stripping of the Altar followed by the Watch for those who wish to stay.



Messy Easter | 19th April @ 10am-12pm

Join us on Good Friday for a morning of fun, food, and faith.

Our crafts and activities retell the Easter story so come along and bring a friend!

Come along to our Easter Café to finish the story!

April Baptismal Anniversary

Ojiugo Utonwa Ubochi



Upcoming Events



Jill Chandler writes

Christian Aid is organising a sponsored walk around Manchester's historic places of worship on 27th of April.

Our intrepid and stalwart walkers of the Compastella Way, Sue and Isabel, and Chris of the Manchester Midnight Walk, plus a few others, will join the event. They will be coming amongst you hoping for sponsorship for the group. We will let you know the result in due course.

Having a Sustainable Easter

Everybody likes Easter eggs. (Don't they?) The packaging though is a contributor to landfill and as we all become more aware of the issues of waste disposal, maybe it is time to think about not buying eggs that are encased in non-degradable plastic. If we stop buying them then maybe Cadbury and Nestle might take action. Endorsed by various Bishops, the 'Real Easter Egg' contains a booklet about the Easter story. <https://meaningfulchocolate.co.uk/collections/real-easter-egg> It isn't the cheapest product but it is Fairtrade, which we ought to be supporting. And did you know Manchester Diocese had commissioned it's own chocolate bar?

From Around St John's



Many greetings to all. By the time you read this we will be into Spring, and hopefully having some better weather.

Our March meeting, was our annual AGM, we also had a game of Beetle, which made a nice change. As our next meeting, 10 April, is before Easter we will be having some Lenten reflections. The word Lent is an old word for Spring, which itself arrives sometime during Lent. Do come along and enjoy some company.

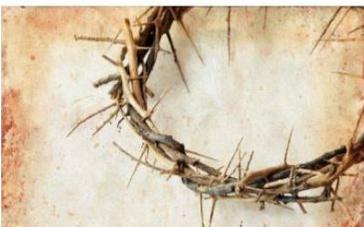
Sharon Marlow

Saint Beuno Sixth century

Beuno was born in Herefordshire, during the sixth century. However, his life story wasn't written until the fourteenth century. It is believed to contain some genuine elements. The main centre of his ministry was North Wales. He founded a monastery at Clynnog Fawr in Glwynedd, where he spent most of his life and is buried. There are many dedications to him in Central and East Wales, some his and some his disciples.

A stone oratory was erected over Beuno's tomb in Clynnog Fawr, however his relics were translated to Eglwysybed, where many miracles were reported and where, sick children were bathed in the waters of his holy well. His cult survived the reformation.

Feast day 21 April



An Hour at the Cross | 19th April @ 12.30

At this traditional choral service we will remember the love of God shown at the cross when Christ died for us.

And in case you thought there were no funnies...

Egg

Church notice: This being Easter Sunday, we will ask Mrs Cusworth to come forward and lay an egg on the altar.

The Bishop's visit

A bishop was visiting a small church in his diocese for Easter. He wanted the young people to understand what he had to say about the Good Shepherd, so he dressed up in his bishop's long, flowing robes and carried his crook. "Now," beamed the bishop, "do you know who I am?"

After a moment's silence, one child ventured "Little Bo Peep?"

Great expectations

At a baptism the minister was full of enthusiasm. He held the baby in his arms and speculated aloud as to the child's possible future. "He may become a captain of industry, a great scientist, or a gifted teacher - someone on whom hundreds of young boys may model themselves." Then turning to the parents in a rather grand manner, he asked, "And so what name to you give to this child?"

Timidly, the reply came: "Amanda Jane."

Miscellaneous musings on life:

- Why is yawning contagious?
- You know, somebody actually complimented me on my driving today. They left a little note on the windshield that read: 'Parking Fine'. That was so nice.
- You never really learn to swear until you learn to drive. You never learn to pray until your kids learn to drive.

Christian upbringing

After the baptism of his baby brother in church, Jason sobbed all the way home in the back seat of the car. His father asked him three times what was wrong. Finally, the boy replied, "That preacher said he wants us brought up in a Christian home, but I want to stay with you and Mum."



HANDMADE
CRAFTS



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If you like to make things & enjoy
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Bring along your own craft project,
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No previous skills are needed.
The chat is as important as the craft.



Everyone is welcome.

St John's Church Hall, Brooklands Road, Sale.

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2.00 – 4.00PM.**

**£1.00 PER MEETING
INCLUDES TEA / COFFEE & BISCUITS**



Sanctuary Guild

Volunteers in the Sanctuary Guild take turns to clean the brasses in church, such as the altar cross, candlesticks, offertory plates and lecterns.



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12th Mrs A. Pilling Mrs A. Howard (For Easter)
26th Mrs L. Vickers Mrs C. Parry

In case you missed this from the General Synod

Those of us who don't read the Church Times only get to read about Synod matters when it concerns sexuality and gets sensationalised in the press. Here are a couple of interesting items that should impact on us.

General Synod backs plans to mobilise one million worshippers

Plans to encourage the Church of England's one million regular worshippers to be more confident in spreading the Christian message in their everyday lives were given the backing of the General Synod in February.

Members of the General Synod welcomed the Church of England's campaign *Motivating the Million*, which is aimed at helping congregations in speaking about and living out their faith in homes, communities and workplaces.

The plans include work to create more lay leaders in the Church of England and a project to help build the confidence of worshippers to invite their friends to church events.

The General Synod also backed a call for all the Church of England's 12,500 parishes to become involved in the global prayer movement '*Thy Kingdom Come*' for more people to come to know Jesus Christ.

Church of England commits to next generation evangelism

The Church of England's General Synod has overwhelmingly called for action with regard to the future of youth evangelism in England, describing the current situation in churches as 'shocking'.

Canon Mark Russell, Chief Executive of the Church Army, revealed that 36% of Anglican congregations *have no one under the age of 16*. Meanwhile only 6% of Church of England churches have more than 25 under 16-year-olds, and most of these are younger children.

The challenges are particularly acute for teenagers, with many churches having none. Yet research suggests 13% of teenagers identify as Christian and many respond positively to the Anglican faith.

The Church of England is making progress, with the appointment of its first Youth Evangelism Officer, Jimmy Dale and its first bishop for evangelism to young people, Bishop Paul Williams.

E&M

GARAGE

DOORS

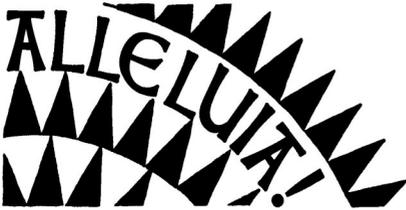


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April
2019



*They could have either a procession of crosses,
or a donkey. But not both.*

Easter trivia

What was the largest ever Easter egg hunt?

The most-ever entrants for an egg hunt competition was 12,773. It was The Fabergé Big Egg Hunt, as part of World Record London, in London, UK in April 2012.

What was the largest-ever decorated Easter egg?

This was built in March 2008, by Freeport in Alcochete, Portugal. It measured 14.79 m (48 ft 6 in) long and 8.40 m (27 ft 6 in) in diameter.

What was the largest ever chocolate Easter egg?

It was made in Tosca (Italy) and weighed 7,200 kg (15,873 lbs 4.48 oz). It had a circumference of 19.6 m (64 ft 3.65 in) at its widest point. It was exhibited in a shopping centre in Cortenuova, Italy, in April 2011.

What was the largest ever Easter egg tree?

This was set by Zoo Rostock GmbH, Rostock, Germany, who decorated a tree with 76,596 painted hens' eggs in April 2007.

What about the most expensive hot cross bun?

This was baked in 1829 in Stepney, London, UK. It was bought by Bill Foster (UK) for £155 at the Antiques for Everyone show at the NEC in Birmingham, West Midlands, UK, in April 2000. Hot cross buns were originally made to hang in the kitchen to ward off evil spirits.

What was the biggest-ever (real) Easter bunny?

So far, the longest rabbit was Darius, a Flemish giant rabbit owned by Annette Edwards (UK), who was found to be 4 ft 3 in (129 cm) long when measured for an article in the UK's Daily Mail newspaper in April 2010.

"Have you a computer problem? If so, I am local and here to help..."

Here are just a few of the services I can offer

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- Internet & Email set up
- New computer installations
- Upgrades & repairs
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STOP PRESS!!! Microsoft have now removed support for all Windows XP systems, which could affect the security of your software. If you are using XP, do give me a call for FREE & independent advice.

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G Singer, Sale

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Vivian, Sale



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Parish Diary April 2019

3 rd	10.00	Midweek Communion
	2.00	Crafty Chat
7 th	<i>5th Sunday of Lent (Passiontide begins)</i>	
	8.30	NO SERVICE DUE TO MANCHESTER MARATHON
	10.30	NO SERVICE DUE TO MANCHESTER MARATHON
	6.30	Holy Communion BCP
10 th	10.00	Midweek Communion
	2.30	Mothers' Union
14 th	<i>Palm Sunday</i>	
	8.30	Holy Communion
	10.30	Procession of Palms and Dramatic Reading of the Gospel
	6.30	Evensong for Passiontide
17 th	10.00	Midweek Communion
	2.00	Crafty Chat
18 th	<i>Maundy Thursday</i>	
	6.00	Maundy Meal
	8.00	Holy Communion and the Stripping of the Altar followed by the Watch
19 th	<i>Good Friday</i>	
	10-12 Noon	Messy Easter
	12.30	An Hour at the Cross
21 st	<i>Easter Day</i>	
	6.00	Sunrise Service (Gather from 5.45)
	10.30	Family Communion
	4.30	Café Church
24 th	10.00	Midweek Communion
	7.30	Evening Prayer and Women's Fellowship
28 th	<i>2nd Sunday of Easter</i>	
	8.30	Holy Communion
	10.30	Service of the Word incl. Annual Meetings
	6.30	Evensong

On Marathon Day, 7 April, do come along to cheer on the runners and hand out jelly babies and jaffa cakes. And don't forget too that we need volunteers to help bag these up.





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