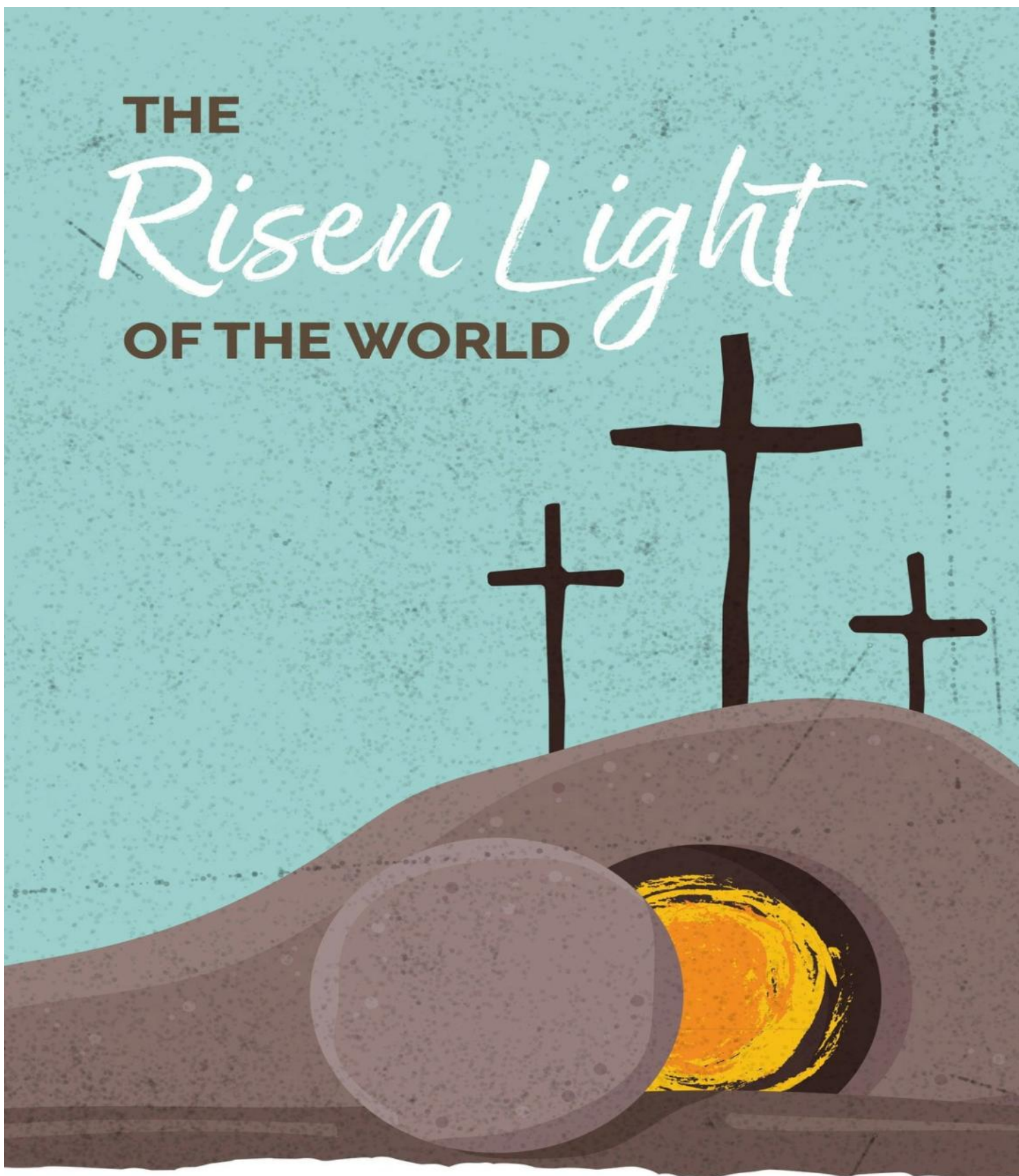


St. Philip's News



THE *Risen Light* OF THE WORLD



April 2026

The Stranger on the Road

It's one of the strangest and most beautiful stories in the whole of the New Testament. Two followers of Jesus are walking away from Jerusalem on the first Easter Sunday, hearts heavy with grief and confusion. A stranger falls into step beside them. They talk. He listens, then speaks - opening up the scriptures in a way that makes their hearts burn within them. And it's only later, at the table, in the breaking of bread, that they realise who he was. And then he vanishes.

There's something wonderfully honest about this story. These weren't people who had lost their faith exactly. They were still talking about Jesus, still trying to make sense of everything. But they were walking in the wrong direction, away from their community, away from hope. And the risen Christ met them exactly there. Not in a moment of great spiritual receptivity, but on a dusty road, mid-disappointment.

That feels true to life, doesn't it? Most of us don't encounter the risen Christ in blinding visions or thunderclap



moments. We encounter him - if we're paying attention - in the unexpected kindness of a stranger. In a conversation that somehow says exactly what we needed to hear. In a piece of music that cracks something open. In the friend who just turns up, without being asked, when things are hard.

The Emmaus story suggests that Christ is already present in these moments. We're not conjuring him up with the right prayers or the correct theology. He's already walking alongside us. The question is whether we'll notice.

There's also something important about the meal too. The two disciples recognise Jesus not in his teaching, remarkable as it was, but in a simple, homely act. The breaking of bread. It's the most ordinary thing in the world, and it's where everything becomes clear.

Which is perhaps a nudge to pay attention to the ordinary. The cup of tea with a neighbour. The shared meal. The moment of genuine connection across a table. These aren't interruptions to the spiritual life - they might be the very heart of it.

The road to Emmaus is any road that we're on trying to make sense of things. And the promise of Easter is that we don't walk it alone. So, keep your eyes open - He has a habit of turning up.

Revd Jonathan

Services in April



Thursday 2 April

7.30pm Communion @
St Peter's, Thorner

Friday 3 April

2.00pm Last Hour at the Cross

Saturday 4 April

7.30pm Easter Taize Vigil @
All Saints, Barwick

Sunday 5 April

9.30am Communion
- *Easter Day*

1st Reading: Col 3: 1-4
Simon Smalley

Gospel: John 20: 1-18
Gill Sinclair

Intercessions: Beckie Briggs

Friday 10 April

2.00pm Prayer Meeting

Sunday 12 April

9.30am Communion
- *2nd of Easter*

1st Reading: 1 Pet 1: 3-9
Ann Riley

Gospel: John 20: 19-end
Chris Prior

Intercessions: John Edward

Friday 17 April

2.00pm Communion
Priest: Robin Paterson

Sunday 19 March

9.30am All Together Worship
- *3rd of Easter*

1st Reading: 1 Pet 1: 17-23

Gospel: Luke 24: 13-35

Friday 24 April

2.00pm Prayer Meeting

Sunday 26 April

9.30am Communion
- *4th of Easter*

1st Reading: Acts 2: 42-end
Ros Loach

Gospel: John 10: 1-10
Simon Carlton

Intercessions: John Prior

CARING FOR EACH OTHER...

If you haven't seen someone for a while, please either try and find out how they are or let us know and we will try and make contact. Please also ask the person if they would like to go on the prayer list (using their full name or just first name). A note to us giving a contact number or address of the person concerned often helps.



PALM SUNDAY

PRaise & PROSECCO

SUNDAY 29 MARCH @ 6:30PM

ST PETER'S THORNER

WORSHIP OLD AND NEW

AS WE JOURNEY INTO HOLY WEEK –

WITH MUSIC, A REFLECTION, PRAYER,

AND A GLASS OF PROSECCO TO CELEBRATE

HOLY WEEK & EASTER

WEDNESDAY 1 APRIL

7:30PM HOLY WEEK REFLECTION

MAUNDY THURSDAY 2 APRIL

7:30PM HOLY COMMUNION AT
ST PETER'S THORNER

GOOD FRIDAY 3 APRIL

10:00AM KIDS' ACTIVITY MORNING
IN THE CHURCH HALL

10:00AM COMMUNITY CAFE

2:00PM LAST HOUR AT THE CROSS

HOLY SATURDAY 4 APRIL

7:30PM TAIZE EASTER VIGIL
AT ALL SAINTS' BARWICK

EASTER SUNDAY 5 APRIL

9:30AM ALL-AGE COMMUNION



HE IS RISEN



**ALL SAINTS, BARWICK
HOLY SATURDAY
4 APRIL @ 7:30pm**

If you've never been to Taizé worship service before, why not consider coming along. It involves sung and chanted prayers, meditation, periods of silence and liturgical readings.

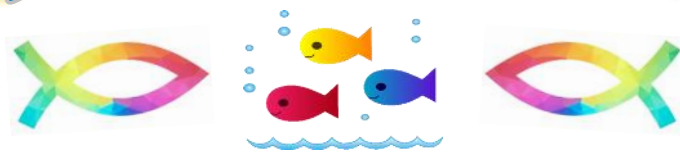
Tuesday Evening Home Group

Meets at 7.30pm in the home of John and Jill Waddington, Beckfields, Station Lane, Thorner.

We shall be restarting after Easter on 21st April, looking at the issues raised in 'Awaken', a book by Anne Calver and John McGinley. As one reviewer says, '*Awaken will stir your spirit, open your eyes, and equip your heart to be part of the new thing God is doing. Don't miss the moment - revival begins with the awakened!*' We aim to finish around 9.30pm.

We seek to discover how God wants us to be involved in what He is doing. Join us for the first meeting to see how you get on. Feel free to contact us on: 0113 289 6942.

Little Fishes



Parent & Toddler Group

For ages 0 – 4

**Please note we will
be closed on
7 & 14 April**



**Every Tuesday
10.30am – 12.00pm**

**St. Philip's Church,
Scholes**

**Drop in for friendly chats,
craft activities and
coffee & cakes**



The Café will be open every Friday in April, from 9:00am to 12:00pm and on **Saturday 25th April** from 10:00am to 12:00pm for teas, great coffees, irresistible cakes, toasted teacakes, bacon butties & crumpets!

Newsletter Deadline

The deadline for entries into the May issue of this Newsletter is **Thursday 23rd April 2026.**

Please send any items to admin@elmetetrinity.org

If you need anything advertising between editions of the Newsletter, please contact Diane who will send out information via email and Facebook.

Need prayer?

Got something on your heart and need a listening ear? Our Prayer Ministry Team are here every Sunday after the morning service, just come over to the Prayer Area on the right side of the church. It's private, confidential, and you'll be with people who care.



Mothers' UNION

Christian care for families

In April our meeting is a social event at the Skyliner. This will be on 13th April because of the Bank Holiday.

In May our meeting will again be on the 2nd Monday of the month, 11th May. We are having a "Bag Beetle Drive" in St Philip's at the usual time of 7.30pm

Mothers' Union is a global Christian movement working with people of all faiths and none to develop communities, strengthen families and advocate for change. Our members are active in 83 countries and work tirelessly to serve their communities to build a future where everyone thrives.

Ending violence, ending poverty, ending injustice. We are a truly worldwide Christian movement. And a local one!

We usually meet on the first Monday of each month at 7.30pm at St Philip's church.

If you want to know more, please contact:

Sally Wray ~ 07484 152 886

Elizabeth Lawson ~ 07518 642 942

PRAYER REQUESTS

Is there something you'd like us to pray about? You can send your prayer requests by using this QR Code and completing the form. All prayer requests are confidential.



come serve with us

We need more volunteers in every area of church life, so if you would be interested to help with:

- Music Group
- Reading / Intercessions
- PA Desk
- Refreshments
- Welcome team
- Prayer Ministry

or would just like to find out more, please contact Revd Jonathan or Ann Riley.

All volunteers would be required to undertake necessary training / legal checks (DBS).

GIVING

SUPPORT THE WORK OF ST PHILIP'S

St Philip's is a charity which receives no funding from the government and is entirely dependent on donations to keep its doors open, continue its work in the community and maintain its buildings and surroundings.

If you would like to support us, you can donate in the plate or use the contactless device at the entrance to church. If you would like to give regularly, you can set up a Standing Order or use a Giving Envelope.

More info from Tim South, the Treasurer or Revd Jonathan.



Standing
Order

Giving
Envelope



Contactless



Collection Plate



Elmete Elderberries

Every Monday 1pm - 3pm
(except Bank Holidays)

Each week we offer:

- *Gentle, chair-based, exercise
- *Help with family history research
- *Crafting & card-making
- *Games, Bridge, Jigsaws & Dominoes
- *Drawing & Painting
- *Brass Band & Folk Singing
- *Knitting, Crochet & Needlework
- *Computer & Camera assistance
- *Refreshments & a warm welcome

*Drop in to learn new things,
make new friends and enjoy a cuppa*

For Everyone: body, mind and spirit

giftaid it

If you pay UK Income Tax, we encourage you to Gift Aid all your giving to church. Gift Aid in the UK is a scheme enabling registered charities to reclaim the tax from the Government on a donation made by a UK taxpayer, increasing the donation by 25p for every £1 you give, without costing you any extra.



Prayer Group

What is prayer?

And why do we do it?

Prayer is our way of communicating with God and, incidentally, with each other.

We meet on the 2nd and 4th Friday afternoon of every month to discuss and then pray for people and events within our local community and in the wider world.

If you want to know more, please speak to Ros Loach or email admin@elmetetrinity.org. You would be very welcome to come along at any time, as and when you can, for a cup of tea and chat to find out what it is all about.



Friendship & Fellowship



Prayer



Laughter



A traditional hymn or two



WHERE: John & Sally Edward's home
73 Nook Road, Scholes LS15 4AX



WHEN: First Wednesday of the Month
7:30pm - 9:00pm

Everyone is welcome!
Especially if you are not a regular at a home group – no need to book, just turn up.



FOOD BANKS NEED YOUR SUPPORT.

We are supporting the work of Seacroft Parish Foodbank.

Drop off points in Scholes:

- . Church
- . Four Pines, Elmete Croft



Elmete Trinity Benefice



When Beckie is not busy being a lay minister in the Benefice, she works for a Christian charity, going into secondary schools to explore faith and tell young people about Jesus.



Our Mission

To support young people and schools to provide emotional, social and spiritual teaching and resources. We build supportive relationships to show everybody is valued and loved by God.

The CROSS Project is a Christian Schools Work charity which has been sharing the gospel in secondary schools across the Wakefield district for over 30 years. We work in 8 different schools on a weekly basis, doing lots of different things to support teenagers and tell them about Jesus.

We deliver lessons on a wide range of Christian topics, including the Trinity and why there is suffering in the world. Not easy topics to teach and even harder with inquisitive teenagers. We make our lessons engaging, using everything from origami to quizzes, puzzles to playdough.

We also run bible studies and clubs, providing a safe place for students to come and have fun, whilst exploring their faith.

We encourage discussions and questions on all sorts of things. Recently we have been using the film Wicked to explore how we treat people who are different and explored the unique gifts we are each given by God.

There is a mental health crisis amongst our young people at the moment. But there is limited resources and long waiting list. As an experienced team of teachers and youth workers we are able to mentor young people to help them deal with the challenges they are facing.

Inspired by the parable of the lost sheep we want each young person to know they are valued and loved by God. It is an amazing role to be able to support and encourage young people and have fun sharing the gospel. Even if some of the questions we are asked really keep us on our toes!

Support Us

We are so grateful for the financial support we receive from individuals and churches. Without this support we would not be able to support the young people we meet.

We also thank all those that pray for us, it gives each of the team strength and encouragement. Thank you

If you would like to receive our prayer updates and newsletter then do get in touch.

Sponsor an Easter lesson

£25

helps us deliver a lesson which explores the true meaning of Easter



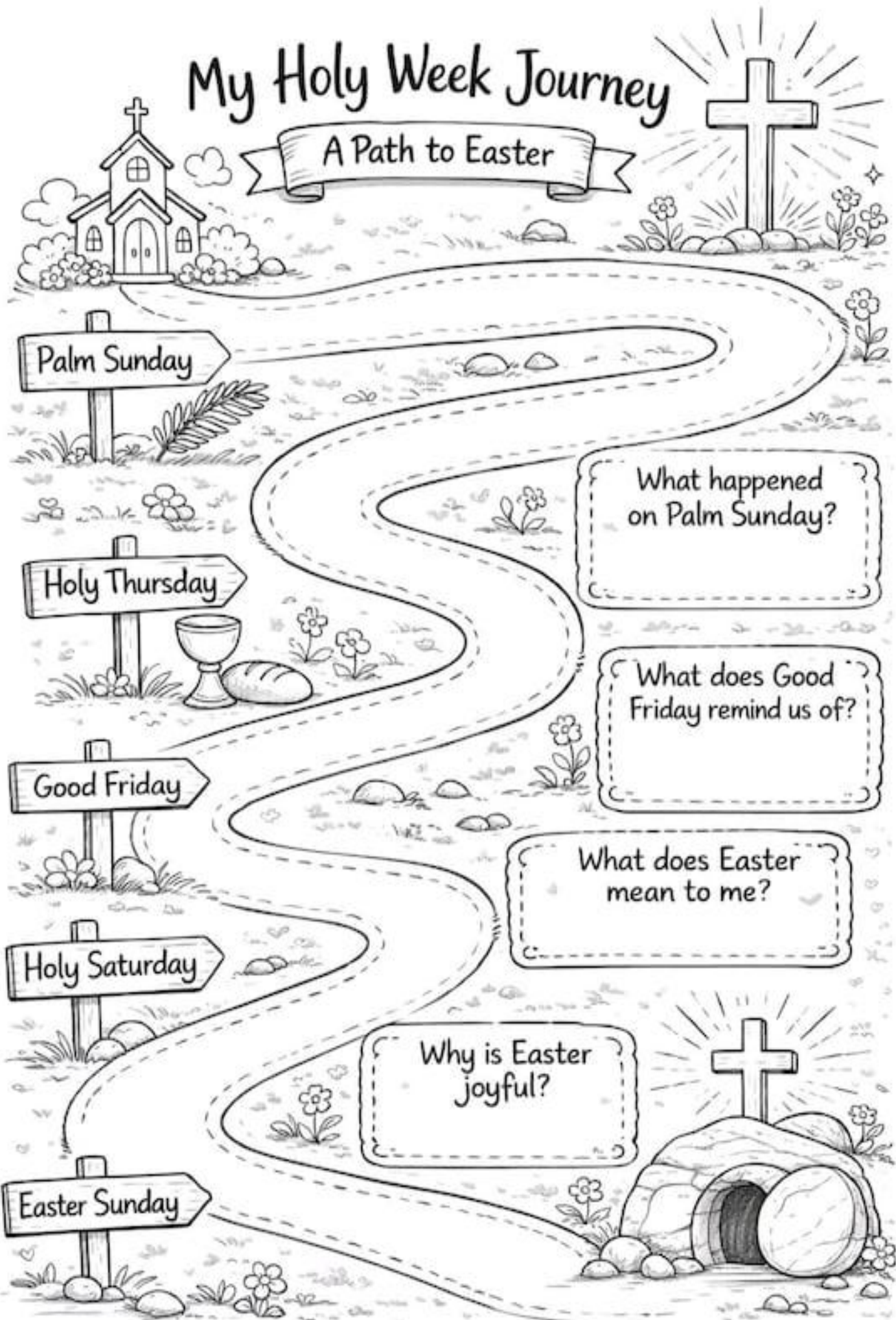
To donate scan the QR code
or
<https://lovegiving.co.uk/crossproject>

office@crossproject.co.uk
01924 215588
www.crossproject.co.uk



My Holy Week Journey

A Path to Easter



Palm Sunday

What happened on Palm Sunday?

Holy Thursday

What does Good Friday remind us of?

Good Friday

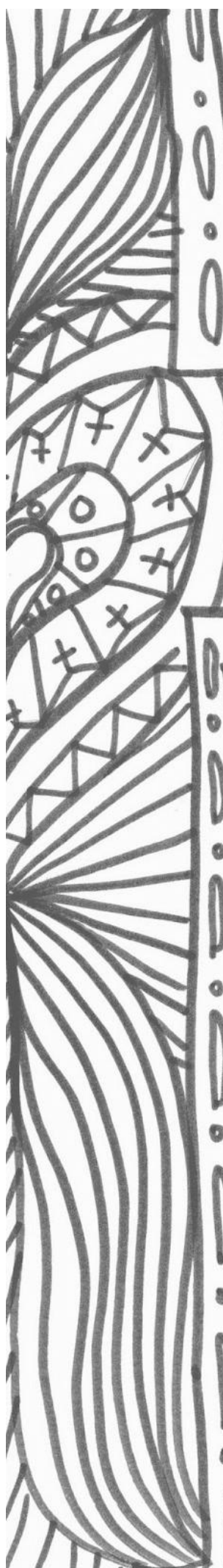
What does Easter mean to me?

Holy Saturday

Why is Easter joyful?

Easter Sunday

Alleluia! Christ is risen. He is risen indeed.
Alleluia!





How to Contact Us



Rector

Revd Jonathan Brennan

☎ 0113 289 2437

✉ rector@elmetetrinity.org

Licenced Lay Minister

Alan Stanley

☎ 07739 184781

✉ alan.stanley8@btinternet.com

Licensed Lay Minister

Beckie Briggs

☎ 07794 155158

✉ beckie@the-briggs.co.uk

Reader Emerita

Ros Loach

☎ 0113 260 5073

Churchwarden

Ann Riley

☎ 0113 273 3560

✉ annl.riley@btinternet.com

Treasurer

Tim South

☎ 0113 265 1742

✉ tim@thesouths.uk

Rector's PA (Interim)

Diane Brennan

✉ admin@elmetetrinity.org

Safeguarding Officer

Beckie Briggs

☎ 07794 155158

✉ safeguarding@the-briggs.co.uk

If you would like to speak to someone about any aspect of St Philip's Church safeguarding policy, or you have any concerns, please speak to Beckie in the first instance. You can also contact Revd Jonathan Brennan.

**Loving.
Living.
Learning.**

We aim to:

- Love** God, the world and one another.
- Live** in the world as it is, but, drawn by a vision of something better, we want to help individuals and communities flourish.
- Learn** when we get things wrong, by listening and then growing together.

www.leeds.anglican.org

THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND
Diocese of Leeds