

# NEWS AND EVENTS



**“Eco Church is a scheme to help church communities improve their Environmental impact.**

**A Rocha has developed Eco Church, an award scheme for churches of all denominations in England and Wales who want to demonstrate that they care for God’s earth.”**

## ***Bishop David’s Easter Message***

“A decade or so back, I spent Holy Week and Easter not here in Manchester, but in Pakistan, visiting our link diocese of Lahore.

“The trip had been long planned as a physical way of indicating our support for a church that is very much a minority in its land and often a persecuted one.

“My visit was made even more significant by the fact that I arrived just ten days or so after a suicide bomber had killed and injured several people in an attack on an act of worship in one of the diocese’s churches.

“Standing alongside our sisters and brothers, sharing with them on the journey to the cross and resurrection, in a time when they were facing great danger, felt like the right thing to be doing. The kind of support that the presence of a brother bishop from a link diocese can properly provide.

“Being physically present is, in my thinking, a form of incarnation: that Jesus came to live, die and rise physically, so we echo that willingness to be with God’s people in person.

“For that same reason, this year, Sue and I made plans to spend Holy Week in Jerusalem, as guests of the Archbishop. Travelling to Gethsemane, Golgotha and beyond, with him and his people, at a time when they’re caught up in the conflicts presently ravaging the Middle East.

“At the time I’m recording this message, as the conflict with Iran continues, it feels unlikely we will travel. We have not yet entirely given up hope, not least because I remember vividly how joyfully the people of Lahore celebrated this holy season, even in the immediate aftermath of an atrocity against them.

“Whether or not I can be with them in person, I’m confident that same joy will be present in Jerusalem this year.

“My prayer is that we in Manchester, who do not face such harrowing circumstances, will be equally full of the joy of the risen Lord.”



### **Bible Study at St Luke's**

*Come and join us in the hall at 6:30 - 7:30pm. every Thursday as we begin our study of the Gospel of John. No prior knowledge is needed and bibles can be provided.*

### **Bible Study at St Thomas'**

Tuesday evenings at 7pm. everybody welcome.

### **St George's School, Charlestown**

Last year, parishioners at St Thomas' kindly gave Year 6 pupils at St George's C of E primary school a gift of a decorated hand-held Cross at their leaving service at St Thomas'. We would like to do the same this year and if you feel you are able to contribute to the cost of purchasing 30 Crosses. Please see Maria or Joy.

Many thanks.

### **Thank You**

On behalf of the family of the late Jean Gleave, we would like to give a massive *Thank You* for all the support, prayers, cards and flowers, and donations to the MacMillan Nurses in memory of Jean.

With Love Debbie, Lee & Family. X

### **Spring Clean at St Thomas' for Easter**

A BIG thank you to all those who helped with cleaning and setting-up the Church yesterday, making it look sparkling clean and beautiful.

### **Fairtrade and Eco Church**

One of A ROCHA's suggestions for going greener in Lent is to aim to go to plastic-free - and to at least reduce our use of plastic, as I suspect many of us are doing. This is just a reminder that we can recycle 'soft plastic' – eg. crisp and sweet packets, bags used for vegetables or fruit, etc. - at local supermarkets, including Aldi and Tesco. If anyone can't get to a supermarket offering this please let Hilary or Christine know and we will happily take them for you.

### ***St Luke's - Coffee & Craft Morning***

Bring your craft with you and we will provide the warm space, friendly chat and a hot drink. *Every Wednesday from 10:30-12pm*

### **Team Sunday Notices**

Any items/articles to be published on the Team Newsheet, please send them by Thursday, am of each week to: John McKenna on: [oscar701@sky.com](mailto:oscar701@sky.com)