



April 4th 2021 St. Luke's News Easter Sunday

Easter is a time for rejoicing. It comes in spring, when the birds are singing and flowers are beginning to carpet the earth.

For Christians, Easter Sunday is the greatest holiday of the year. It is a day of joy, celebrating the Resurrection of Jesus of Nazareth, who rose from death to life nearly 2000 years ago.

A happy Easter to you all! This letter comes at the very end of Lent, when - after a time of reflection, and perhaps self-denial - we look forward to a time of celebration and hope on Easter Day. This year, after over more than a year of pandemic and lockdown, things may look a little different and there are still those who are not too optimistic about the future. The good news, however, is that the Christian message is still the same, with Jesus offering hope and a future with Him in this world and the next. He said, "I am the resurrection and the life.....whoever lives and believes in me will never die," (John 11, v15f).

We know, of course, that people have always questioned the facts of the resurrection. Why should we believe it? First, in the four Gospels, we read a good deal about the events of Holy Week, culminating in the rising from the dead of Jesus, who talked with his friends, shared food with them, and showed them his wounds. Some of them - e.g. Peter - went on to die for this resurrection-based faith, an unlikely event if it was simply a made-up story. Non-Christian historians also bore witness to Jesus being seen alive after the crucifixion.

Secondly, people who set out to disprove the facts, found it difficult. Frank Morrison, after examining the accounts, wrote, "Who Moved the Stone?," having become convinced of the truth of what he found. Then, there is the effect that resurrection faith has had on people for nearly 2,000 years, transforming lives, situations and society. That is hard to discount. Christians have faced pain, opposition, martyrdom and the everyday pressures of life, in the knowledge that they're not alone. That is the Easter message - in life and in death (which, inevitably, has been a big part of our thinking over the last year or so), we can be sure that if we trust Him, with all our failings and fears, He will guide us through whatever lies ahead of us.

May God bless us all with the joy and hope of Eastertide!

Noreen.

Church News - Appointment of new incumbent (vicar)

We are pleased to be able to tell you that agreement has been reached for interviews for a new incumbent (vicar) to take place on Friday, June 25th. 2021. Please remember this time in your prayers as we prepare.

Your views, suggestions or preferences will be gladly accepted.

Pam 01785 819244

David 01785 818178



Joyce is one of our villagers who received an Easter poem from the children at school. She says she thinks it is very kind of the children to think of her and other villagers at this time of the year. She added as a message to the pupils that both her daughters came to the school when they were their age - she remembers them bringing small bunches of daffodils home at this time of year.

We thank the school for bringing the message of Easter to members of our community during very testing times. Thanks also to Anthea for the Hot Cross bun cupcakes !

Thank you for the fantastic response to the Foodbank. Current shortages are:

The church porch is open on Thursdays 9-5 for donations.

LONG LIFE MILK	WASHING UP LIQUID
SPONGE PUDDINGS	SHAVING GEL
CUSTARD - TINNED AND PACKET	TOILET ROLLS
DEODORANTS - MALE AND FEMALE	TOOTHBRUSHES
WASHING POWDER/LIQUID/CAPSULES	

Why do we have eggs at Easter time?

The custom began many thousands of years ago! For ancient peoples, the symbol of new life was an egg and for many years it was the custom to give eggs as gifts during the Spring festival. In some European countries decorating eggs has been a great art for many years. Sometimes they are made of crystal and gold and even decorated with jewels.



The Easter bunny is supposed to bring the Easter eggs and hide them, coming at night because he's shy. No-one knows how the story of the Easter bunny began.

The Germans were the first to make an Easter-egg tree where eggs are hung on a tree or a bush together with ribbons and other decorations. This year has seen a great interest in the idea of Easter trees as shoppers aim to make this Easter weekend a celebration to remember - Sainsbury's said searches for Easter trees on its website have surged by 977% compared to this time last year!



Following on from the Good Friday Churchyard I-Spy –

How many Easter rabbits and chicks can you spot around the village?



As well as eating chocolate eggs this Easter Sunday, don't forget to come along to see the **Easter Resurrection** display in the church porch. You are welcome to bring along some flowers to add to the display.
There will be vases and water is available around the back of the church hall.

Our Easter Sunday Service will be on Zoom, open at 9.50 to start at 10.00

This is a different Zoom link than previously

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/3558390555?pwd=ZINvRVcxZHZlVWRaUzhGS1Vqcy9QZz09>

Meeting ID: 355 839 0555

Passcode: 758581

ZWITT Thursday morning worship 10.00 and Friday evening Bible Study on the Zoom link above.

Date	Psalm	NT reading	Gospel reading
Sunday 4 th April	118 vv14-24	Acts Ch10 vv34-43	John Ch20 vv1-18
Monday 5 th April	16	1Corinthians Ch15 vv1-11	Matthew Ch28 vv8-15
Tuesday 6 th April	33 vv4-5,18-end	1Corinthians Ch15 vv12-19	John Ch20 vv11-18
Wednesday 7 th April	105 vv1-9	1Corinthians Ch15 vv20-28	Luke Ch24 vv13-35
Thursday 8 th April	8	1Corinthians Ch15 vv29-34	Luke Ch1 vv35-48
Friday 9 th April	118 vv1-4,22-26	1Corinthians Ch15 vv35-50	John Ch21 vv1-14
Saturday 10 th April	118 vv1-4,14-21	1Corinthians Ch15 vv51-end	Mark Ck16 vv9-15

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