



Saturday 9th April 2022

Hello,

It is a wonderful blue sky day. I apologize for a shorter letter this week. Judy and I finally got caught by COVID and have nearly recovered. We are so thankful we are vaccinated! Bishop Julian conducted our Confirmation Service at St Mary's on the 30th March. It was a very special time. We congratulate our candidates and wish them all God's richest blessings, guidance and protection as they continue their Christian journeys.



Tomorrow is Palm Sunday, when Jesus entered Jerusalem as the Messiah, to suffer and to die for us.

We process round the Church holding up palm crosses. This reminds us of Jesus' victory, when he was raised from the dead on Easter Sunday.

During our more traditional communion service tomorrow (9:30 at St. Michael's), we read St Luke's account of the events of Holy Week – the last supper, Jesus being betrayed, his prayer in Gethsemane, his arrest, Peters denial, Jesus' mock trial and crucifixion.

At Sunday worship (11 am at Christ Church) we offer an alternative way of remembering Palm Sunday and the events of Holy Week – we make our own palm crosses and sing worship songs about the events of Holy Week, led by our music group.

The palm crosses help us look forward to Easter Sunday which, with Christmas Day, is the most important day in the year for Christians. We give priority to coming to Church to thank God together that Jesus rose from the dead and is alive

Three services on Easter Sunday:

7am Dawn Communion at St Mary's, Trawden
9:30am Easter Communion at St Michael's, Foulridge
11am Easter Communion at Christ Church.

All these services are for everyone.

Easter Sunday is my last day before retirement. We have made so many wonderful friends. Thank you so much for being you and for all your support. Judy and I will be so sad to leave you all.

We are having a BBQ at the Vicarage in Keighley Road after the 11am service, to which all of you are very much invited.

Last Sunday, Judy and I were really quite ill with COVID and the Rev Dave Penney very kindly lead our service at Christ Church. A number of you have asked for a copy of his excellent sermon, which I'm attaching below.

We had an amazing Baptism Sunday on Mother's Day. Here are a few photos of the day.







Please call if you need anything or would like prayer. I am always thinking of you. Have a wonderful Holy Week. Every blessing and love, Rev John.