

April and May 2022



GRIDIRON

The Magazine of the Parish Church of
Saint Laurence Upminster

£1



The Power of the Cross by Francesca Ross

Service times

Sundays		Weekdays	
Holy Communion	08.00	Tuesday, 1 st and 3 rd of month	Prayer During the Day on Zoom 10.30
Sung Parish Mass	09.30		
Sunday Schools	09.30		
Evensong	18.30	Wednesday	Morning Prayer 08.45
<i>(see Parish Diary for details)</i>			Mass 11.00
			Evening Prayer 16.30

Footsteps

This Service for pre-school children and grown-ups normally takes place monthly on a Monday at 09.45 in the Lady Chapel. The next service is on **Monday 23 May**.



Additional services on Saints' Days are shown in the Diary in the back pages.

Baptisms and Wedding Banns

These are administered during public services.
Please contact the Parish Office to make arrangements.

Confessions

By appointment with the clergy.

**Please inform the Parish Office, Revd Susannah or Fr Roy of anyone who is ill or in need of a pastoral visit.
See back pages for useful telephone numbers.**

See back pages for useful telephone contact numbers

www.upminsterparish.co.uk

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From the Rector

As I write this, the first signs of Spring are appearing around us – snowdrops, daffodils and beautiful blossom on the trees. By the time you read this in April, hopefully Spring will be well and truly established and many signs of new life will be around us.

In some ways, the coming of Spring mirrors what is happening on a human level, with the hope that we are finally emerging from the pandemic. And yet in other ways, it feels almost opposed, as we emerge from the pandemic still bearing its scars to varying degrees. As I write this, we are also witnessing horrendous events in Ukraine – who knows what the situation will be by the time you are reading this article.

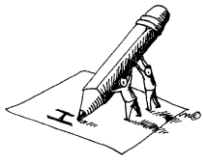
Very shortly we will be marking Holy Week and Easter – a week which takes us through so many of the highs and lows of human experience. It is a week which is about devotion, love, life and hope – and yet also betrayal, hatred, death and despair. In the events of that one week almost two thousand years ago, we see so many echoes of situations we may have encountered in our own lives and that we see across the world. We are reminded that the full breadth of life, in its best and its worst moments, are known by God and are included in Jesus' journey from death to resurrection. This is not some easy answer to the tragedy of innocent suffering, but it is an assurance that God is present in the midst of suffering and shows that it cannot have the final word.

The journey of Holy Week and Easter can be extremely powerful. It is not an easy experience, but it draws us fully into a movement through the events at the heart of Christian faith. It encourages us to bring our fears, regrets, failings, anxieties or grief to the foot of the Cross, and then to find fresh hope, life and conviction in the empty tomb on Easter Day.

The meaning of Holy Week and Easter, and indeed of the Gospel, is so beautifully and simply expressed in this prayer of Archbishop Desmond Tutu:

Goodness is stronger than evil; Love is stronger than hate; Light is stronger than darkness; Life is stronger than death; Victory is ours through Him who loves us. Amen.

With my prayers and best wishes, Susannah



From the Editors



Dear Readers

We are now in the midst of Lent, a time when we are encouraged to journey for forty days alongside Jesus in reflection, contemplation and learning; a time when we are encouraged to fast and reduce; a time that will bring us to the foot of the cross and show us Jesus' crucifixion. It will also take us through the desolation following his death. Yet, before we begin, we are comforted and supported because we know he has already risen. We know of the joyful celebration. We know all about Easter – or do we? I hope that you will be able to say that this Lent, this Easter, you have discovered something new in your faith and in yourself that brings you closer to Jesus. Happy Easter, Christ is risen! He is risen indeed. Amen.

Joanne Chapman, Editor.

From the Parish Registers



BAPTISM

We welcome into the family of the church and pray for:

30 January	Alexander Cross, Poppy and Huxley Measor
6 February	Lois Sullivan
27 February	Archie and Evie Golder

FUNERAL

We offer our deepest sympathy to the family and friends of:

1 February	Janet Cope
4 February	Melvyn Gallagher
7 February	Valerie Moyse
10 March	Edith Spencer

INTERMENT OF ASHES

We offer our deepest sympathy to the family and friends of:

26 February	Gertrude Philpot and Frances Martin
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June and July Magazine Deadline

Items for inclusion in the June and July edition of *Gridiron* should reach the editorial team by **Friday 6 May**. We would prefer to receive items by e-mail at gridiron@upminsterparish.co.uk. Paper copy is acceptable but should be submitted to us as early as possible. The **June and July** Magazine will be on sale from **Sunday 29 May**.

Holy Week and Easter – Sunday 10th to Sunday 17th April

Lord Jesus, you came as a humble servant but were proclaimed as King. Even so, willingly you became broken for us and, through your death and resurrection, Love became triumphant!

April 10th, Palm Sunday: 8am Mass with Reading of the Passion.

9.30am Liturgy of the Palms, Procession and Parish Mass with Reading of the Passion. 6.30pm Said Compline on Zoom.

Monday April 11th: 4.30pm Evening Prayer. **Tuesday 12th:** 4.30pm Evening Prayer. **Wednesday 13th:** 11am Said Mass and 4.30pm Evening Prayer.

Maundy Thursday, April 14th: 11am Chrism Mass at Chelmsford Cathedral. 8pm Solemn Mass of the Lord's Supper, followed by the Watch (*see Porchtalk for timings*).

Good Friday, April 15th: 10am Walk of Witness from Upminster Methodist Church. 10.30am Churches Together Service in Upminster Park. 12-3pm Children's Good Friday Activities in the Main Hall (*please book in advance - deborah.masterson@upminsterparish.co.uk*). 12-1.45pm Stations of the Cross in church. 2-3pm Liturgy of the Day in church.

Holy Saturday, April 16th: 8pm Easter Vigil.

Easter Day, Sunday 17th: 8am Said Mass. 9.30am Parish Mass. No Evening Service.

Our Building Project

by Christine Clifford

For readers unfamiliar with this project, the aim is to improve the facilities of this Grade 1 listed building, parts of which date from the Middle Ages. Chiefly we aim to improve access for our community, including providing accessible loos. It is a big project. Raising the necessary money has already begun but there is still a long way to go.

So please support our fundraising efforts, and remember the project in your prayers. If you wish to donate, there are Building Project envelopes in church, as well as a designated slot in the wall safe by the church door for cash. Donations may also be made via BACS to PCC of Upminster, sort code: 60-22-06, account number: 13064185 (Please use the reference 'Build Project'). Every little helps! Thank you.

Melvyn Gallagher, JP

by Christine Clifford



Melvyn moved to Upminster when he was 5yrs old and stayed here for the rest of his life. He did well at school, but not finding a college course for his twin passions of Art and History, he went to work at an auction house, which was later taken over by Christie's. He did valuations at private houses and at fairs, a forerunner of the BBC's Antiques Road Show. He also worked to establish professional qualifications for those in the antiques trade.

Having enjoyed Scouting, at the age of 18 Melvyn became a Scout leader and was still involved with Scouting at the time of his death more than 45 years later. This was just one of the ways in which he served his community; another was 20 years' work for the Red Cross. In 2011 he was proud to be appointed a magistrate and was a fair-minded and well-liked member of North East London Bench, and was still serving when he died.

Melvyn was a member of the congregation at St Laurence for a number of years, and latterly was on the PCC, where he was the church representative on the Scouts' Group Executive Committee, and also contributed to groups looking at stewardship and written communications. At a church sale in aid of our Building Project, Melvyn brought some of his collectables. (The photo shows him with his stall.) He and I, and others of the stewarding team, had many interesting chats when stewarding for Private Prayer sessions in church as lockdown eased last year.

Melvyn had no close relatives so his family was a host of long-standing friends, who turned out in force for his funeral. The church was full, and the service a fitting tribute to a very nice man. Donations in his memory were made to the work of our church. He will be missed by many.

The Church of England Diocese in Europe has partnered with the United Society Partners in the Gospel (USPG) to organise an emergency appeal to support humanitarian work both in Ukraine and with refugees fleeing into neighbouring countries. For information or to donate visit ukraine-emergency-appeal.raisely.com



David Hill, RIP

by Chris Mowat



It is an honour and a privilege to write these words about David Hill whose funeral took place in Market Rasen on the 28th January following his battle with cancer.

Born on the 20th November 1948 in Nurse Mattocks' Nursing Home in Leasway, Upminster, he went to the Bell Infants/Junior School and then on to Palmer's Grammar School for Boys in Grays where it is fair to say he loved life rather than academia. He became a member of the St Laurence congregation from when he was born, as his parents Ken and Barbara were much involved in the life of the church and it was not long before David became a boat boy and a server, just like his father and his uncle, Bill Gunary. He joined the cubs, progressed to the 2nd Upminster Scouts and enjoyed all scouting activities. In his teens he joined the Junior Guild and then the Guild of St Laurence, being part of the camaraderie, friendship and activities enjoyed by many young adults in the Guild.

When he left school he went to college to learn catering and hospitality before joining Ford's at its Gants Hill office. From there he went on to the main Ford plant at Dagenham, providing hundreds of meals for its large workforce.

As changes came about in the car industry, David looked for other challenges and moved to become Catering Manager at Harold Wood Hospital where he was for many years. A move then to a similar post at Warley Hospital beckoned and he purchased a 250cc motor bike to enable him to travel to work more easily, much to the chagrin of his family.

He married Janet at St Laurence and home became firstly a flat in Hornchurch, followed by houses in Beech Avenue and then Melstock Avenue. Their children, Chris and Katherine, were born in Upminster and all the family continued to worship at St Laurence and play an integral part in church life.

Changes in the management of hospitals and the services provided then led to a major change in the family's life. David looked for a new challenge and much to his delight he successfully applied to become warden at Abbey House, Glastonbury, the retreat house for the Diocese of Bath & Wells. This was a role which David thoroughly enjoyed as it brought him into contact with clergy and

others in the Diocese as well as the hundreds of people who came for a variety of retreats and conferences. He supervised a team working in Abbey House and was able to accommodate visits from family and friends from time to time. The children had their major schooling in Somerset and from there Chris went on to become a priest with his own parish and Katherine trained to become a primary school teacher – they made David very proud.

When the Diocese made the decision to close Abbey House David retired, staying on in Glastonbury for a while but then moving to Market Rasen in Lincolnshire where he was for six years until his death.

Throughout his life, David's Christian faith was very important. St Laurence was the place where he developed his faith and then to Glastonbury, with his involvement not only in Abbey House but also the Parish Church of St John's where he became churchwarden. Following his move to Market Rasen he involved himself in the life of St Thomas' Church becoming its treasurer.

He was widely read and would challenge opinionated journalists, politicians and clergy. However, he respected others and would support those whose need was greater than his, often applying his great sense of humour to situations. Comedy was an inspiration to him.

When he was diagnosed with cancer last May, he was determined to be fit enough to walk his daughter Katherine down the aisle at her wedding held in Glastonbury in August and it was a proud day for him when he achieved just that.

In all this, David's love for his family was paramount. He was proud of Chris and Katherine and his grandsons Aidan and Joshua, not forgetting his sister Deborah, brother-in-law Peter, his nephews Michael, Jonathan and Andrew and their offspring. Bill and Shirley Gunary, his cousins and the many distant family members and friends were all important.

David fought his illness all the way with good humour, an indomitable spirit and a knowledge that God was with him constantly. He made sure he always kept up with the news, what was going on in his parish church and here at St Laurence plus what friends and family were doing. When Nancy and I saw him a few days before he died he talked for a long time about his situation, the inevitability of it all, but knowing that in God's hands "all will be well".

We shall all miss him greatly. His Christian faith, determination, enthusiasm, humour, lifelong friendship and love of family life will stay with us. He chose

the hymns for his funeral and it was fitting that the final one was 'O Jesus I have promised to serve thee to the end'. However, his humour was apparent in that his coffin left the church to Sousa's 'Liberty Belle' (aka The Monty Python theme). Yes he had the last laugh!

His ashes will be interred in the churchyard of St Laurence on the 23rd April and a memorial service held on the same day at 12 noon.

David, from all your friends and family, thank you for your life, love and friendship – may you rest in peace and rise in glory.

The Church Weather Vane - Storm Eunice

According to the records, the weather vane was installed in 1911. In 1998 the gilded Gridiron shape wind vane, given in memory of Betty Allan, was made and installed, replacing an earlier one. The new Gridiron wind vane stood the buffeting from Storm Eunice but unfortunately the wind vane did not.

The northern arm was found in the churchyard, the western hung on precariously and the eastern disappeared. It was only the southern arm that remained in place. Our supervising architect found a suitable firm which could deal with the damaged vane and our insurers gave the go ahead to have it removed for assessment and to make the area safe.



On Wednesday 16th March two expert steeplejacks arrived. They first went up inside the tower/spire fixing their internal ropes - no ladders were used. One then came out of the tower via Dr Derham's door and went up on ropes to the top. The remaining parts of the vane were removed and lowered to the ground. The missing eastern arm was found lying in the guttering.

A report will be issued as to the condition of the top of the spire, the fixings and the vane, which has been damaged beyond repair. A new one will need to be made. The undamaged Gridiron wind vane will need re-gilding before going back up.

The two guys who climbed the spire were friendly, professional and undertook the work efficiently - it is good to know that such craftsmen and conservation firms exist. The likes of Storm Eunice causes devastation but 'order comes out of chaos'.

Missing the Week of Christian Unity?

Sadly, for the last two years, the designated January week of Christian Unity has been cancelled as regards events in our local churches, due to the Covid pandemic. As Upminster, Cranham and North Ockendon have a fairly active Churches Together group, this has been a noticeable loss. Christian unity should not, however, be thought about for just one week; it should be a year-long consideration for all serious Christians, and of course what Christian Unity would mean in a more practical form.

The following article was written by Rev. Johnston McKay (Church of Scotland - Presbyterian), who was formerly Assistant Minister at St Giles' Cathedral and then Minister of Bellahouston Steven Parish in Glasgow and Paisley Abbey. In 1987 he joined the BBC Religious Broadcasting Department and retired as Editor of Religious Broadcasting for Scotland in 2002.

This was first broadcast on BBC Radio 4 on Wednesday 19th January 2011, and was published in 'Prayer for the Day - Volume II' published by Watkins in 2016, in arrangement with the BBC.

"Some years ago now, when I was a producer in religious broadcasting, I took three leading churchmen to the Holy Land. John was a Roman Catholic priest, Richard an Episcopalian bishop and Gilleasbuig a Church of Scotland minister. We were all friends and we arrived in Jerusalem on a Saturday afternoon. I was anxious get on with recording but I was aware my colleagues might want to go to worship the next day. So as dinner ended, Gilleasbuig asked if John, the Roman Catholic priest, would give us communion in his room the next morning. Priests aren't officially allowed to give communion to those who aren't Roman Catholics, but immediately he agreed, gathered up the remains of a bread roll, took what was left in his glass of wine and we all went off to bed.

At eight o'clock the next morning we all perched on the edge of Father John's bed, beside the crumpled bedclothes. He read a passage from the Bible, talked a wee bit about it and then led us through the Mass, the Holy Communion, the Eucharist, the Lord's Supper, call it what you will, and we shared the stale bread roll and the dregs of wine.

It was the most real act of worship I have ever attended. And what made it real was that, although it was intensely moving, none of us said so. We simply went down to breakfast and went out to start recording. Christian faith for me isn't

about spiritual 'highs': it's what quietly sustains me as I get on with what I have to do.

I think of that moment when the week of Christian Unity comes around. I've seen it and it works."

Loving God, show us how to bring all together in the one Kingdom of Yours, where no sword is known but the sword of truth and no strength known but the strength of love. Amen.

It would be nice to give the church a spruce up before Easter. Anyone who could spare some time on Saturday 9th April, from 9.30am, please contact Jean Keen. We have some cleaning equipment in church, but as at Christmas, please bring any favourite cleaning stuff with you. Refreshments will be provided.



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An Easter Reflection

‘When you die, that’s it. Nothing. Out like a light.’ That’s what the man in the pub said, and his mates all nodded, though the one whose mother had died the week before wasn’t really quite so certain. Still, it seemed to make sense.



After all, we know what ‘dead’ means: dead leaves, dead batteries, dead fish, dead pets... and dead people, to be honest. While we recognise that it’s all too easy to go from alive to dead, we’ve got serious doubts about the possibility of any return journeys.

Which is why Christians have an uphill task at Easter. Jesus was a great man, and people want to remember how He died. Fair enough. But it starts getting complicated when Christians insist that Jesus died - but didn’t stay dead - in fact, that He’s alive now. That ‘return journey’ has happened, they say.

That’s the problem about Easter, Christians persisting in what sounds like a ridiculous belief. If they just dropped the resurrection bit and concentrated on the wonderful teaching of Jesus and His example of generosity, compassion and love then everybody would find Christianity much more believable. Wouldn’t that make sense? And wouldn’t that fill the churches again? Well it might (or, more likely, it might not). But in any case, the trouble is that it wouldn’t be Christianity at all. The faith of Christians actually depends on the resurrection of Jesus, and always has done, right from the earliest days.

After the crucifixion, the body of Jesus was taken down from the cross by some of His friends and put in a rock tomb with a heavy stone rolled across the doorway. Yet the following Sunday, the third day after His death, His followers claimed that they had met Him, seen Him, talked with Him.

So certain was their belief that nothing could make them recant it. Not ridicule, not torture, not even death itself. They couldn’t deny His resurrection, because they were absolutely convinced that it had happened. Plenty of clever and powerful people at the time had a vested interest in proving them wrong. It shouldn’t have been difficult to prove that a dead man had stayed dead, especially when you have at your disposal the resources of the greatest empire in history. Yet they didn’t do it, because it couldn’t be done.

Still today millions of people all over the world believe that Jesus did, in fact, rise from the dead. They include brilliant scientists and philosophers as well as plenty of 'ordinary' men and women of all ages. They believe it because they respect the witness of those first Christians, and because in many cases their own lives have been transformed by a relationship with Jesus - a relationship that wouldn't make sense if He were dead!

Christians don't put their faith in a dead hero from the past, but in someone who is alive and active in their own lives and in the world. That, in a nutshell, is the real message of Easter.

Queen's Platinum Jubilee

The UK and Commonwealth will celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee with a four-day Bank Holiday from **Thursday 2nd to Sunday 5th June** and churches throughout the country will join in on the celebrations - we plan to hold a cream tea on the **Sunday** - and this is the programme for national events:



Thursday 2nd June: The Queen's Birthday Parade - Trooping the Colour in London and lighting of beacons around the country and Commonwealth.

Friday 3rd June: St Paul's Cathedral Service of Thanksgiving.

Saturday 4th June: The Derby at Epsom Downs, attended by members of the Royal Family, and the Platinum Party at the Palace - a concert broadcast from Buckingham Palace.

Pentecost, Sunday 5th June: Pentecost Sunday services in churches around the country linked to the Platinum Jubilee. Platinum Jubilee Street Parties/Big Jubilee Lunch around the country and The Platinum Jubilee Pageant on The Mall.

Two special books have been produced by HOPE Together which can be ordered from cpo.org.UK/Queen. '*Our Faithful Queen*' - a gift book using rarely-seen prayers the Queen prayed as she prepared for the Coronation and for those under 5 years '*The Girl Who Grew Up To Be Queen*'.

Confirmations

Olivia Boachie, Jasmine Elworthy and Finlay Course (left to right in photo below) confirmed their Christian faith, along with others from across the deanery, on 13th February. They were supported by Revd Susannah, Fr Roy and members of their families at a service hosted by St Nicholas Church, Elm Park and presided over by The Bishop of Colchester. A presentation in St Laurence followed a couple of weeks later where they were each given a book of prayers. Sarah Keen provided a delicious selection of cup cakes which she had expertly made for the occasion and which were just as expertly eaten during coffee after Mass.



They were supported by Revd Susannah, Fr Roy and members of their families at a service hosted by St Nicholas Church, Elm Park and presided over by The Bishop of Colchester. A presentation in St Laurence followed a couple of weeks later where they were each given a book of prayers. Sarah Keen provided a delicious selection of cup cakes which she had expertly made for the occasion and which were just as expertly eaten during coffee after Mass.

Jasmine writes that 'Being confirmed at St Nicholas was a wonderful experience both spiritually and in terms of the lovely community which welcomed us after our confirmation. We enjoyed an inspiring sermon by Bishop Guli who had in person given us some words of wisdom beforehand. The Sacrament of Confirmation itself, followed by Communion, was a transformative experience for me and something that I think I will carry for the



rest of my life. After the service we had cake and sandwiches in the hall, reminding us of the importance of Christian community and of Father Keighley's baking expertise!'

The Lion and the Lamb

by Rob Brabner

There are many references to the lion in both the Old and New Testaments. Indeed, as the 'king of the jungle' it also symbolises strength and majesty. The book of Revelation refers to Jesus as a lion, standing victorious over evil: 'See, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has triumphed!' (Revelation 5:4-5).



The lion is also an emblem of St Mark, and often in the context of St Mark it may be a lion with wings. St Mark's gospel was thought to emphasise Jesus' kingship, and so he was ascribed the lion, king of the beasts. His gospel opens with St John the Baptist 'crying in the wilderness' like the roar of a lion.

Powerful lions are defensive bulwarks in some Italian churches, where their statues support the porch columns. They catch in their claws small creatures that have tried to slip past them. The small creatures symbolise sin. These days we may consider that a bit unfair on small creatures!

The lamb, of course, is a sacrificial animal, therefore the connection with Christ is strong for Christ's followers. St John the Baptist seems to have been the first to call Jesus 'the Lamb of God'. Christ is also the 'Good Shepherd' and therefore the sheep are his flock. The Old Testament presents images of God as the gentle carer, particularly over the people of Israel. 'The Lord is my Shepherd, I shall not want' Psalm 23:1, or Isaiah 40:11 'He tends his flock like a shepherd: he gathers the lambs in his arms and carries them close to his heart; he gently leads those that have young'.

Jesus was portrayed by the early Christians as a young shepherd carrying a lamb on his shoulder. From John's gospel 10:14-15 we have Jesus saying 'I know my sheep and my sheep know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father, and I lay down my life for the sheep'.

The carving in St Laurence (pictured) of the lion and the lamb at the head of the choir stalls appears to be a reference to the book of Isaiah 11:6-7 '...The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them'. When the lion is joined with the lamb, the lion's ferocity is transformed into an image of tranquillity and peace - a sign of when God's kingdom is established.

Compiled and adapted from 'How to Read a Church' by Richard Taylor published in 2003 by Rider, an imprint of Ebury Press.

A New Fit for St Andrew by the Wardrobe

by Rob Brabner

Why the name St Andrew by the Wardrobe? Well, it took its name from the nearby King's Wardrobe where the monarch's clothing and other stores were housed from the mid-14th c. until the Great Fire of London destroyed it in 1666. It was rebuilt by Sir Christopher Wren during the period 1685-93. It was then gutted in WW2 by incendiary bombs and subsequently restored by the British architect, Marshall Sisson, between 1959 and 1961. The 17th c. red brick tower and external walls survived the bombing and the internal restoration was conducted with great care to retain as much historic interest as was possible.

The church has an 18th c. font and pulpit which came from St Matthew's, Friday Street (demolished 1900) and an early 18th c. chandelier made of latten (a compound of zinc, lead and tin). The ceiling is barrel-vaulted in the Wren style, and the church has galleries on three sides. In the sanctuary there are two small wooden sculptures: St Andrew c.1600 and a delightful St Ann holding the Virgin and Child. This is believed to be North Italian c.1500.

In the West Gallery is a stained glass panel showing the Conversion of St Paul by Joshua Price which is early 18th c. The window is flanked with memorial reliefs to William Shakespeare, who lived close by in Ireland Yard, and his contemporary, the composer John Dowland, lutenist to James I. His music is still popular today and a few years ago Sting released an album of Dowland's music!



Like most City Churches this is a Guild Church and not a parish church. They still hold regular services, although its location does make it difficult to attract an extensive congregation. There are at least four City Guilds or Livery Companies associated with this church: Mercers, Apothecaries, Parish Clerks and Blacksmiths. Their flags are displayed in the nave. The Mercers' Company and the Parochial Church Council serve as joint patrons of the Benefice.

The church has two entrances. The south Queen Victoria Street entrance is quite bleak and faced by brutalist 1960s architecture across the road, no doubt

erected due to the extensive wartime damage in the area. However, the north side is a complete contrast. This entrance is in St Andrew's Hill, which includes some interesting historic buildings. Close by is the Old Deanery of St Paul's, not far from St Paul's Cathedral.

St Andrew's Church is entering a new stage of development. The Church of England, in partnership with the London Diocese of the Egyptian Coptic Church, have agreed to make it the Egyptian Coptic Church's London Centre. The church will retain Anglican services and some building work is shortly to be undertaken that will upgrade the Grade I listed building whilst retaining all its main features. The proposal will ensure the church has a secure future.

As I write it is not clear how long the church will be closed, but it will be very interesting for those of us who love the City Churches to see St Andrew's with its new re-fit for the 21st century.

Below: Exterior Photo of the Church

Previous page: Statue of St Anne with Virgin & Child, (North Italian c.1500)



Operation Mobilisation Short-Term Outreach

Short-term outreaches push you out of your comfort zone, meaning you're compelled to trust God in ways you might not usually have to. As you witness in word and action, you allow God to work through you. Offering to pray for someone, or just sitting and listening to them, can create space for people to encounter Jesus.

OM only ever sends short-term teams to places where long-term teams are already established. This means that short-termers can increase the capacity of existing ministries. For example, in Adaševci refugee camp in Serbia, short-term volunteers serve hot drinks, do laundry and chat to refugees in the tea tent run by OM. This frees up the long-term team to engage in the more strategic, logistical or administrative work that needs doing.

OM offers a variety of short-term outreach opportunities. For more details, visit www.uk.om.org

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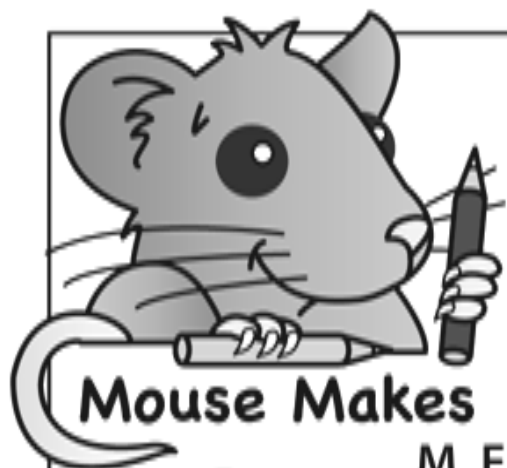
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HAPPY EASTER!

Jesus has risen!
Jesus is with us!
Jesus will come
again!



What did Jesus send the disciples to find?

What did the crowd do?

Read
Matthew
21:1-11



Who betrayed Jesus?
Who denied Jesus?

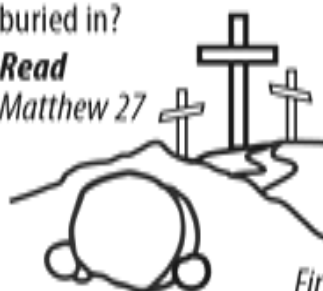
Read Matthew 26:17-75



What did the soldiers put on Jesus at his crucifixion?
What time did Jesus die?
Whose tomb was Jesus buried in?

Read

Matthew 27



M E S S I A H W I N E
E T R E E D O N K E Y
A Q C H R I S T I T P
L R G O D H A O S H A
R O B E A E N V T R S
A O O B R A N C H E S
N M J O K V A P O E O
G O O D N E W S R D V
E R Y Y E N V A N A E
L N J E S U S V S Y R
P I B D S Q U I P S C
E N L I N E N O I C U
A G O T E L L U R R P
C R O W N N D R I O Q
E A D E A T H A T S U
B O D Y E N A I L S A
S P A L M S T S K T K
C R U C I F Y E I O E
D A E B R E A D S M B
K I N G O L O T S B U
I S T O N E M A R Y R
S E A S T E R O A D Y

Find these words from the Easter story in the word search:

DONKEY • ROAD • BRANCHES • PALMS • KING • HOSANNA
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What did Jesus do at Passover?

Read Matthew 26:17-30



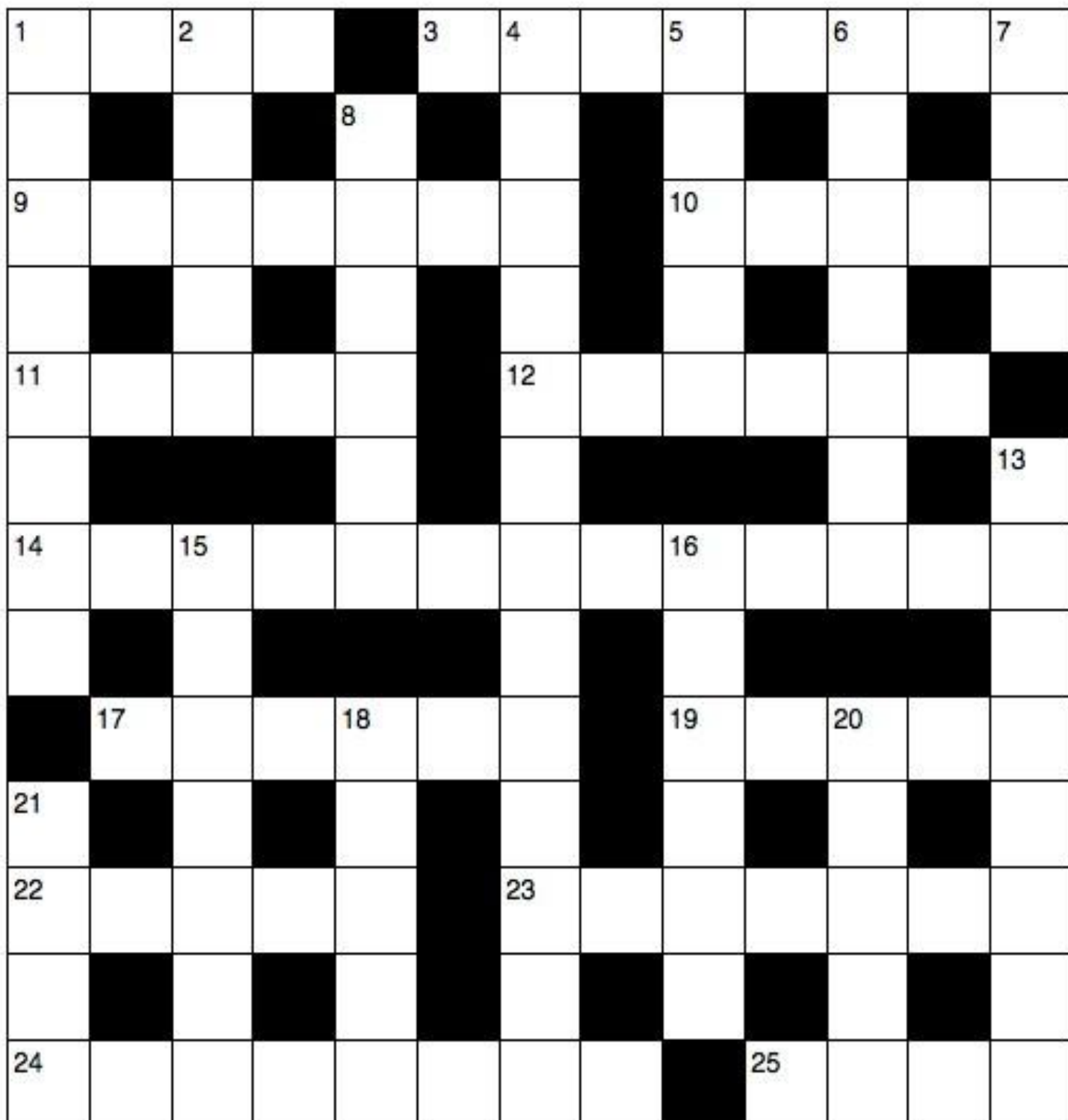
On the third day who rolled away the stone covering the tomb?

What had happened to Jesus?

Read

Matthew 28





Across

- 1 'The baby in my _____ leaped for joy' (Luke 1:44) (4) 3 A 'don't know' in matters of faith (8)
- 9 In the distant past (Jeremiah 2:20) (4,3)
- 10 Armada (1 Kings 10:22) (5)
- 11 Where Moses was confronted with the burning bush (Exodus 3:1) (5)
- 12 Hair colour indicative of skin infection (Leviticus 13:30) (6)
- 14 'The worries of this life and the _____ of wealth choke it, making it unfruitful' (Matthew 13:22) (13)
- 17 Expel (2 Kings 13:23) (6)

- 19 What Jesus wrapped round his waist when he washed his disciples' feet (John 13:4) (5)
- 22 The sixth plague to afflict the Egyptians (Exodus 9:9) (5)
- 23 For nine (anag.) (7)
- 24 Where there is no time (Psalm 93:2) (8)
- 25 Goliath's challenge to the Israelite army in the Valley of Elah: 'This day I _____ the ranks of Israel!' (1 Samuel 17:10) (4)

Down

- 1 'I will become angry with them and forsake them; I _____ my face from them' (Deuteronomy 31:17) (4,4)
- 2 Usual description of prophets such as Amos, Hosea, Micah, and so on (5)
- 4 'They cannot see the light of the gospel of the _____, who is the image of God' (2 Corinthians 4:4) (5,2,6)
- 5 An animal's internal edible parts (Leviticus 4:11) (5)
- 6 Popular 20th-century religious novel by Lloyd C. Douglas, which became a 1953 film starring Richard Burton (3,4)
- 7 'A _____ on a hill cannot be hidden' (Matthew 5:14) (4)
- 8 One of the exiles, a descendant of Bebai, who married a foreign woman (Ezra 10:28) (6)
- 13 Old Testament hymn-singing (8)
- 15 'And O what transport of delight from thy pure _____ floweth' (7)
- 16 Of felt (anag.) (3,3)
- 18 'So _____ the _____ sets you free, you will be free indeed' (John 8:36) (2,3)
- 20 Comes between 'bad' and 'worst' (John 5:14) (5)
- 21 'Neither height nor depth... will be _____ to separate us from the love of God' (Romans 8:39) (4)

Answers February and March Crossword

ACROSS: 1 Credit. 4 Tackle. 7 Cain. 8 Kenaniah. 9 Strength. 13 Beg. 16 Salvation Army. 17 ARC. 19 Every day. 24 Admonish. 25 Dire. 26 Sneeze. 27 Bronze.

DOWN: 1 Cock. 2 Epistolic. 3 Taken. 4 Tenet. 5 Cane. 6 Leave. 10 Erase. 11 Guide. 12 Honey. 13 Barbarian. 14 Guys. 15 Asia. 18 Rod in. 20 Voice. 21 Rahab. 22 Hope. 23 Mene.

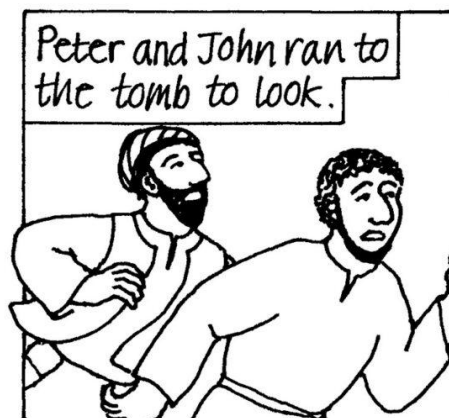
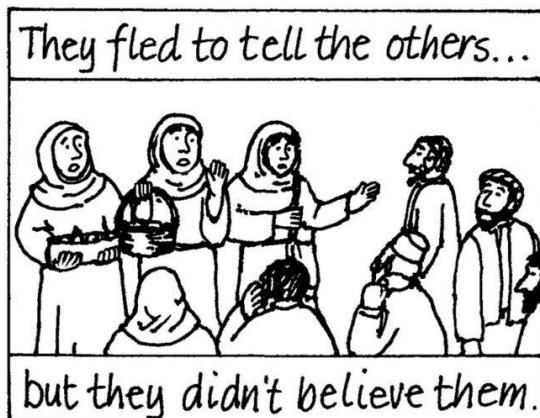
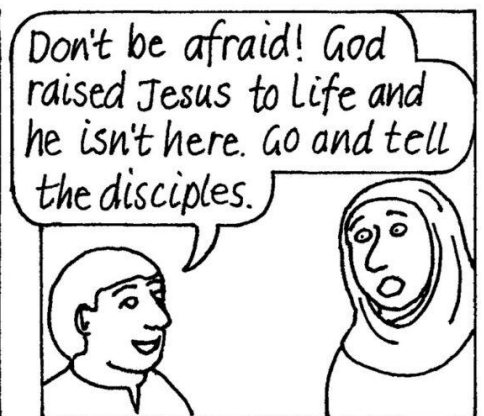
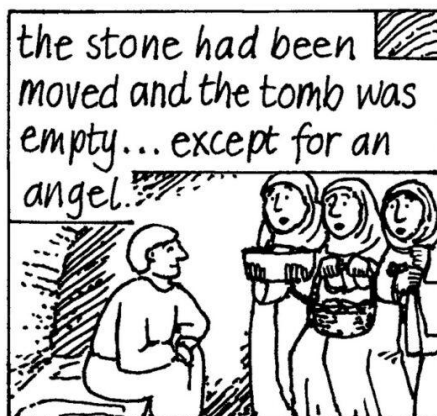
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Bible Bite

A short story from the Bible

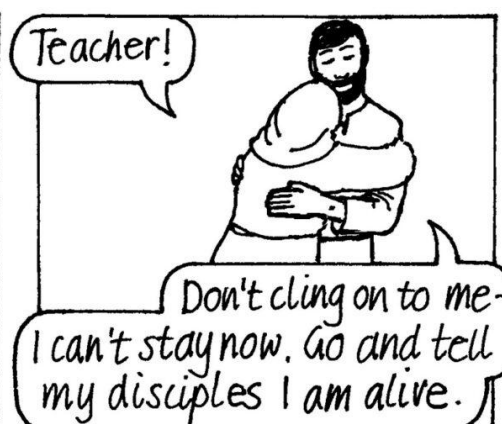
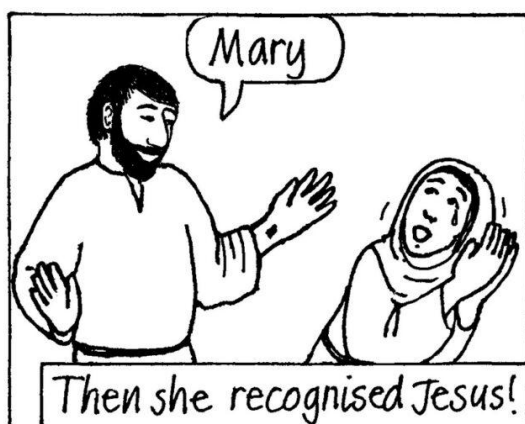
It can be read in the Bible in
Mark 16:1-8, John 20:1-18

Jesus' tomb had been sealed with a large stone.
Very early Sunday morning, some of Jesus' friends went to put spices on his body.



They saw the tomb was empty and only the cloths that Jesus' body had been wrapped in lying there. So they went back to the others.

Mary Magdalene stayed by the tomb, crying. She didn't understand that Jesus was no longer dead. When she looked in the tomb there were 2 angels.



Charity of the Month April – Harold Hill Foodbank

The Trussel Trust support a nationwide network of food banks which together provide emergency food and support to people locked in poverty.

In the UK, more than 14 million people are living in poverty. The food bank centres provide a minimum of three days' nutritionally-balanced emergency food to people who have been referred in crisis.

They support and encourage the food bank centers to provide compassionate, practical support to people in crisis to tackle the root causes that lock people into poverty and build people's resilience so they are less likely to need a food bank in the future. Volunteers take time to listen and signpost people to obtain further assistance.

They also recognise that ending hunger is about more than food. They campaign for social and political change to end the need for food banks in the UK.

Our three local foodbanks are Harold Hill, Rainham and Collier Row and they work as a team supporting each other and the communities they serve.

Charity of the Month May – United Society Partners in the Gospel (USPG)

The world is battered by suffering, distress and disturbance: environmental degradation, turbulent global politics, gender injustice, the forced displacement of millions of people and the harassment and killing of indigenous peoples... the list goes on.

The USPG believe that in the face of these traumas, the churches of the Anglican Communion are called to be communities of resistance and hope. Such challenges cry out for words and actions that express love and solidarity and go beyond self-interest and national boundaries.

They work with partners to help the Church demonstrate the healing power of Christ's love. They travel, listen, bring church leaders together and form relationships of trust so that everyone can learn together and from each other. Their role in today's world is to love and to work for justice and peace.

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Parish Diary for April

See inside front cover for regular Sunday service times

Fri	1 st	7.30pm Stations of the Cross, St Laurence <i>Frederick Denison Maurice, priest, teacher of the faith, 1872</i>
Sun	3 rd	5th Sunday of Lent, 11am APCM, Main Hall, 6.30pm Compline on Zoom
Tue	5 th	5pm Organ teaching
Fri	8 th	10.30am Coffee Morning, 7.30pm Stations of the Cross, St Joseph's
Sat	9 th	<i>Dietrich Bonhoeffer, Lutheran pastor, martyr, 1945</i>
Sun	10 th	Palm Sunday, 6.30pm Compline on Zoom
Mon	11 th	11.00am Organ teaching, 4.30pm Evening Prayer
Tue	12 th	4.30pm Evening Prayer
Wed	13 th	4.30pm Evening Prayer
Thurs	14 th	Maundy Thursday, 11.00am Chrism Mass, Chelmsford Cathedral, 8pm Mass followed by Watch
Fri	15 th	Good Friday, 10am Walk of Witness, 10.30am Service in Upminster Park, 12-2pm Stations of the Cross, 2-3pm Good Friday Liturgy
Sat	16 th	Easter Eve, 8pm Easter Vigil
Sun	17 th	Easter Day
Wed	20 th	8pm CM&FG in Parish Office
Thurs	21 st	10am Parsloes Primary School Visit, 8pm Choir practice
Fri	22 nd	10.30am Coffee Morning
Sat	23 rd	12pm Memorial Service for David Hill, <i>George, martyr, patron of England, c304</i>
Sun	24 th	2nd Sunday of Easter, 6.30pm Evensong on Zoom
Mon	25 th	<i>Mark the Evangelist</i>
Wed	27 th	<i>Christina Rossetti, poet, 1894</i>
Thurs	28 th	8pm Choir practice, <i>Peter Chanel, missionary, martyr, 1841</i>
Fri	29 th	10.30am Coffee Morning <i>Catherine of Siena, teacher of the faith, 1380</i>
Sat	30 th	<i>Pandita Mary Ramabai, translator, 1922</i>

Details of dates, times and venues of all meetings and events need to be recorded in the Parish Diary (Parish Office 01708 220696)

Parish Diary for May

See inside front cover for regular Sunday service times

Sun	1 st	3rd Sunday of Easter, 6.30pm Evensong on Zoom
Mon	2 nd	<i>Philip and James, Apostles</i>
Wed	4 th	<i>English saints and martyrs of the Reformation Era</i>
Thurs	5 th	5pm Organ teaching, 8pm Choir practice
Fri	6 th	10.30am Coffee Morning
Sun	8 th	4th Sunday of Easter, 12pm Baptism, 6.30pm Evensong on Zoom
Thurs	12 th	8pm Choir practice, <i>Gregory Dix, priest, monk, scholar, 1952</i>
Fri	13 th	10.30am Coffee Morning
Sat	14 th	<i>Matthias the Apostle</i>
Sun	15 th	5th Sunday of Easter, 12pm Baptism, 6.30pm Evensong on Zoom
Mon	16 th	<i>Caroline Chisholm, social reformer, 1877</i>
Tue	17 th	5pm Organ teaching, 7.30pm PCC Meeting in Parish Office
Thurs	19 th	8pm Choir practice, <i>Dunstan, archbishop, monastic reformer, 988</i>
Fri	20 th	10.30am Coffee Morning, <i>Alcuin deacon, abbot, 804</i>
Sat	21 st	<i>Helena, protector of the Holy Places, 330</i>
Sun	22 nd	6th Sunday of Easter, 12pm Baptism, 6.30pm Evensong on Zoom
Mon	23 rd	9.30am Footsteps
Tue	24 th	<i>John and Charles Wesley, evangelists, hymn writers, 1791 and 1788</i>
Wed	25 th	<i>The Venerable Bede, monk, scholar, historian, 735, Aldhelm, bishop, 709</i>
Thurs	26 th	Ascension Day , 8pm Choir practice
Fri	27 th	10.30am Coffee Morning
Sat	28 th	<i>Lanfranc, monk, archbishop, scholar, 1089</i>
Sun	29 th	7th Sunday of Easter, 6.30pm Evensong on Zoom
Mon	30 th	<i>Josephine Butler, social reformer, 1906, Joan of Arc visionary, 1431, Apolo Kivebulaya, priest, evangelist, 1933</i>
Tue	31 st	Visit of the Blessed Virgin Mary to Elizabeth

Details of dates, times and venues of all meetings and events need to be recorded in the Parish Diary (Parish Office 01708 220696)



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