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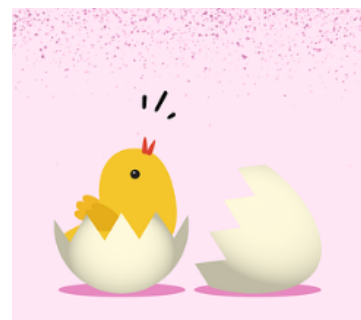
Sunday 9th April 2023

Easter Sunday

HAPPY EASTER!

May I wish you all a very Happy Easter!

I know many families will be having an easter egg hunt over this season and many of us (myself included!) will enjoy eating an Easter egg. Of course, the chocolate is quite a treat - but, as Christians, we point to the egg as being the important thing.



An egg represents the potential for new life; perhaps you've seen a chick emerge from its shell? "New life" is the miracle of Easter where, in his rising, Jesus conquered death. And, in doing so, offers us the possibility of a new life in Him. My hope is that you may discover and deepen this new life within you - that even it might shine out from you to others.

May God bless you this Easter.

Tom

Christ Church : John 20: 1-18

There's Something About Mary...

In her presence at the foot of the cross, and in attempting to give Jesus' body a proper burial, Mary Magdalene models faithful discipleship.

On Easter Sunday we will explore what Mary Magdalene teaches us about living out the promise of the resurrection, finding the personal transformation that takes place when we love Jesus, staying close to Him, and seeking to follow His example.

Good Friday

Easter Sunday

Interactive Service

10:30am at Christ Church

Throughout the service we will be exploring the answer to the question, 'what does the cross mean to you?'. It's an interactive service suitable for all ages.

And we will be serving hot cross buns afterwards!

Reflective Service / 'Last Hour' Service

10:30am at Emmanuel

2pm at Christ Church

As we observe the last hour of Jesus' life, we will explore four of the last sayings of Jesus:

(1) "It is Finished" (2) "Woman Behold Your Son" (3) "I Thirst" (4) "Into Your Hands I Commit My Spirit."

This service will include Bible readings, reflection, music, and silence.

Emmanuel : Matthew 28: 1-10

Just as dawn was breaking, two women approach the tomb of Jesus. As they draw near, the ground quakes, the stone moves, and an angel sits on the stone. 'He is not here' says the angel 'He has risen!'. The women could see right into the heart of the tomb and knew assuredly that their Saviour was indeed alive just as he said.

Come to Emmanuel Church on Easter Sunday morning and, like the women that first Easter day, look right into the heart of the tomb and find for ourselves that He has risen!

What's On This Week

Saturday 8th April

Repair Café from 10am-12:30pm at Christ Church

Sunday 9th April

Deaf Church at 3pm at Emmanuel

Monday 10th April

No Ladies Together this week

Tuesday 11th April

No Parish Prayers this week

No Beacon this week

Wednesday 12th April

No Seedlings Toddler Group this week

Thursday 13th April

No Craft & Chat this week

Welcome Group at 2:30pm at Emmanuel

Sunday 16th April

Emmanuel's APCM - after the morning service
Evening Prayer Service at 6pm at Christ Church
(Theme - 'Upholding the Leadership')

Notices

Larissa Unavailable

Please note that Larissa will be unavailable from Monday 10th April until Friday 14th April inclusive. Also unavailable on 22nd & 23rd April.

Stone Masonry

Please be advised that the stone masons will be working on the entrance to the car park on 12th/13th/14th April so access will likely be restricted.

Verse For The Week

"The angel said to the women, 'Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. He is not here; he has risen, just as he said. Come and see the place where he lay.'"

Matthew 28: 5-6

Watch the Morning Service

at www.ccwsm.org.uk

Go to the 'Church Life' menu and click on the 'Sunday Services' page

Prayer Pointers

Mary went early to the tomb...

Our Risen Lord revealed Himself first to Mary Magdalene, clearly showing, at a time when attitudes were very different, that women were to be equally important in Christian witness.

Give thanks that we are now blessed to have so many female ministers and bishops and for all they have done to advance the church.

Jesus stood among them and said "Peace be with you".

Pray for the peace of God to descend upon the world this Eastertide.

Pray for an end to the terrible conflicts in Ukraine, Yemen, and Tigray, and especially for the safety of civilians and refugees.

...but Thomas doubted.

In these troubled times doubts may cloud upon us. Pray for the Risen Lord to strengthen your faith.

Pray for Christians living in countries where their faith is sorely put to the test, that they may remain steadfast.

Jesus addressed travellers on the road to Emmaus.

Many whom our Lord approaches fail to recognise Him. Pray earnestly for anyone you know, perhaps in your own family, who has rejected Jesus - that He will reveal Himself to them and they will accept Him into their lives.

Jesus instructed the disciples where to cast their nets.

Pray that the Church will have the wisdom to discern the direction God wants us to go. So many controversial matters beset the Church at this time. Pray that the Lord will guide the General Synod in its decision making.

Peter is told "take care of my sheep".

Ask for God's blessing on our vicar, Tom, our curate, Larissa, and all in any pastoral position in the parish.

Pray for anyone you know of in need of pastoral care at this time: ask the Lord to be their Shepherd, to guide them through their troubles.



SOUNDS



What is the sound that I hear today?

Is it the sound of running away,
or is it the sound of them coming to get
the man who came riding down steep Olivet?

What is the sound by the courtyard fire?

The sound of denial spoken with ire;
the cockerel a-crowing to herald the dawn
and the sobbing of one who is so forlorn.

What is the sound as one stands abused
with untruths and lies so falsely accused?

A robe coloured purple with thorns for a crown;
all is a tumult which will not die down.

What is the sound up there on that hill?

Is it the crowd which has gone for a thrill?
A cross with nails so cruelly driven,
and arms outstretched with love freely given.

What is the sound as the daylight dies
and a voice full of anguish calls out and cries:
“Father forgive”, as His life drains away
and His body is broken on that dreadful day.

What is the sound on that first Easter Day?

Is it the sound of a stone rolled away?
The sepulchre bare, no longer a prison,
the sound is a shout: “the Lord has arisen!”

Ken McDougall



Save The Date... Coronation Weekend

Saturday 6th May
3:30pm-6pm
Coronation Tea Party
Christ Church

Sunday 7th May
after morning service
Bring & Share Lunch
Emmanuel



DAILY PRAYERS for the **CORONATION** of **KING CHARLES III**

The Church of England has brought out a little booklet with daily prayers starting on Easter Sunday.

From Easter Monday these will be our online Daily Prayers as we pray for our new King. Different members of our church families will read these.

You may also buy a copy from Jeff Morgan at Christ Church or Meg Hill at Emmanuel (£1).

More coffee anyone...

Sharing 'the Peace'

It's hard to believe that only a year ago, last Easter, we were tentatively emerging from the worst of the pandemic. Things are gradually returning to normal.

One small thing we are now doing is offering the possibility of shaking each others hands during "the Peace" at Communion. However, please do not feel this is something you need to do - if you'd prefer, greet each other but keep your hands by your side. *Tom*



Annual Parochial Church Meetings

A reminder that the dates for our annual meetings are as follows:

Emmanuel: Sunday 16th April after the service

Christ Church: Monday 24th April at 7:30pm

The new Electoral Rolls are now displayed at both Christ Church & Emmanuel - please check these & advise Emma in the Church Office (Christ Church) or Keith Bury (Emmanuel) of any corrections needed.

At Christ Church we have five vacancies for the PCC (Church Council). At Emmanuel we have one vacancy. This is an important role - please reflect on whether you would like to put yourself forward or maybe suggest it to someone else you think would be good in that role. Nomination forms are available at the back of church, from the Office, or from the wardens.

Also, if you are interested in being a candidate for election to the Deanery Synod, please see either the church wardens or Emma in the Office for a nomination form.

Free Books...!!



The donated books are now at Emmanuel - please do have a look through these and feel free to take any which may be of interest to you or someone you know.



The next Repair Café will be held this Saturday 8th April from 10am-12:30pm at Christ Church

Contact Details

Rev. Tom Webber (Day Off - Tuesday)
t: (01934) 709343
e: vicar@ccwsm.org.uk

Rev. Larissa Trust (Day Off - Tuesday)
t: 07879 754372
e: curate@ccwsm.org.uk

Church Office (09:30-12:30 Mon-Fri)
t: (01934) 641016
e: office@ccwsm.org.uk
w: www.ccwsm.org.uk