



Outlook

**The magazine of
St Mark's Church
Longwood**



April 2022

From Fr Simon: Why is Easter so special?

To answer this, we need a bit of a story.

About 2000 years ago God became human and was called “Jesus” which means “one who saves”. In many ways Jesus led a very normal human life, Mary his mother who had been pregnant with him, gave birth to Jesus, who grew up into an adult. We think he probably learnt to be a carpenter from Joseph his (earthly) father. The bible tells us that Jesus had brothers and the family went on trips and visited relations.

When he was about 30 years old, Jesus was baptised. This is when his life changed. Jesus started his 3-year ministry among the local people. He taught and healed and socialised with people. People began to recognise that there was something different about this man. He was gentle, but the gospels also show Jesus being forceful, critical and angry. He spoke against those who failed to see God’s good news for what it was. Inevitably there was bitter conflict. His enemies had him executed on a cross – the usual and shameful method for a common criminal.

But Jesus’ tomb was discovered empty on the first Easter Day. He appeared (not resuscitated, and not a ghost, but resurrected) to Mary Magdalene and to his disciples. He was alive in his body, but alive in a new way. The disciples didn’t always recognise Jesus in his new life, until he ate with them, then suddenly they realised who he was.

In Jesus’ first life people saw Jesus as an extraordinary man.

In Jesus’ new life people began to realise that Jesus was God.

Through the cross and resurrection, God has conquered death, because although Jesus was killed, he was resurrected with new life. Jesus shares his new life with us, and has removed all other barriers that separate us from God and from eternal life.

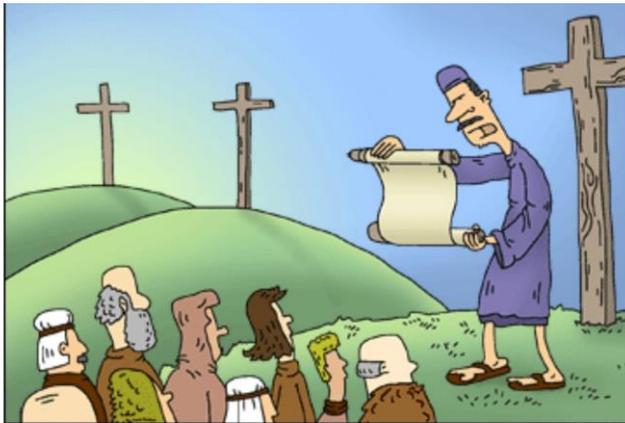
The first Easter, the day of the resurrection, was on a Sunday, and so we celebrate the Eucharist (also known as Holy Communion) on every Sunday. As we eat and drink the bread and wine, we believe that Jesus comes to us in a

special way, and that like the disciples we recognise that God himself is with us.

So, Easter is so special because Jesus shares his new life with us, which sweeps us to God as he reaches to us, and brings us to heaven.

Jesus' new life is your new life, if you want it. It is none other than the life of God.

God Bless



(See John 19:17-37)

04-18-2014

"I, JESUS, HEREBY BEQUEATH MY CARPENTRY STUFF TO ZED, MY GOOD TUNIC TO ROB, AND I'LL BE BACK TO PICK UP THE REST. TO EVERYONE IN THE UNIVERSE PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE ... I LEAVE LIFE."

Did you know that it is traditional not to say the word "Alleluia" during lent?

Then on Easter Sunday and in the Easter Season it's heard lots in our services and Easter hymns.

The word means "Praise God" and is often used as an exclamation of Joy and an expression of thanks.

Pilgrimage to Wakefield. Written by those who went.

The joint Pilgrimage of St. Mark's and St. John's churches to Wakefield Cathedral on Saturday 20th March was a joy and food for the soul.

We were welcomed into the cathedral by the Dean, the Very Reverend Simon Cowling who introduced us to the Precentor, the Reverend Canon Dr. Jayson Rhodes. Canon Rhodes, "Jayson", was to be our guide for the day.

After an introductory talk, Jayson took us on a tour of the cathedral which consisted of six stations each relating to a phrase from the Lord's Prayer.

We began outside gazing up at the highest spire in Yorkshire, pointing heavenwards, reminding us of, "Our Father in Heaven".

Station two was the font inside the front door. Encouraged to dip our fingers into the water to symbolise the washing away of sins we thought of, "Forgive us our sins".

For station three we walked the labyrinth, a path of prayer and concentration, hence, "Lead us not into temptation".

Station four was the Nave altar. As we touched it we thought of, "Give us today our daily bread". As we gathered around we were reminded that we are all joined together.

Moving into the choir we sat and listened to Psalm 100 set to the arrangement by Vaughan Williams and were transported into the heavenly kingdom, and so, "Your Kingdom come".

The sixth station was the Sanctuary, the Holy of Holies, the place of safety, hence, "Deliver us from evil".

In this heightened awareness of our Lord's love we gathered in St. Mark's Chapel, behind the High Altar, for the Eucharist.

After lunch and some free time we reassembled in the chapel for Evening prayer.

Having thanked Dr Rhodes and the Cathedral staff we made our way home very much looking forward to our next Pilgrimage.

One person reflected that the day was, “A time to reflect and be soaked in God's presence.”

And another said, “I feel sure that Cathedral visits from now on will have a much richer and deeper meaning.”

On 3rd July we are delighted that the Dean of Wakefield, The Very Reverend Simon Cowling will be preaching at our Sunday services.

This month's joke:

Q. How do you know that atoms are Catholic?

A. They have mass.

From The Rev'd Mtr Janet Sargent

I would like to thank everybody from both parishes for the lovely flowers and cards which I received.

I am enjoying retirement so far – especially the chance to be part of the congregation at St Stephen's, where I have had a warm welcome.

I have also written a long-promised article for a specialist magazine which will be published in April – so despite being in my official “rest period” I am keeping busy.

Best wishes to you all.

Janet

NOTICES

Our **services** are on Sundays at 11am.

On Friday 1st April (no joke) we start our monthly **family games evening** in the Parish Centre. We'll start at 6pm with a drink and snacks. There will be a selection of games to play (and some experts to remind us of the rules). We expect to finish by 7.30pm. All Welcome.

DIARY

Friday 1st April. Family Games. 6pm Longwood Parish Centre HD3 4UL (see previous page for more details)

Sunday 3rd April

- 9.30am Holy Communion with music and groups for children. St John's Golcar
- 11am Sung Eucharist followed by APCM. St Mark's Longwood

Palm Sunday 10th April

- 8am Holy Communion in traditional language. St John's Golcar
- 9.30am Holy Communion with music and groups for children. St John's Golcar
- 11am Family Eucharist followed by APCM. St Mark's Longwood

Holy Monday 11th April Reflective service 6pm St John's Golcar, led by Susan Askey

Holy Tuesday 12th April Holy Communion 6pm St Mark's Longwood, led by Fr Simon Crook

Holy Wednesday 13th April Evensong 6pm The Community of the Resurrection, Mirfield.

Maundy Thursday 14th April

- Chrism Mass 11am at Ripon Cathedral
- Maundy Thursday service 6pm at St Mark's Longwood, including washing of feet, stripping of the altar and vigil

Good Friday 15th April

- Golcar Village Good reflections and prayers. 10am by the war memorial
- Good Friday meditations. 12pm St John's Golcar
- Good Friday liturgy 2pm St Mark's Longwood. Including veneration of the cross

Easter Sunday 17th April

- 5.30am Dawn vigil at St Mark's Longwood.
- 8am Holy Communion in traditional language. St John's Golcar
- 9.30am Family service, St John's Golcar
- 11am Sung Eucharist. St Mark's Longwood

Saturday 23rd April Coffee morning in aid of the RNLI 10am St John's Golcar

Sunday 24th April

- 8am Holy Communion in traditional language. St John's Golcar
- 9.30am Holy Communion with music and groups for children. St John's Golcar
- 11am Sung Eucharist St Mark's Longwood

LOOKING AHEAD

Saturday 14th May Golcar Lily Day

Sunday 5th June Platinum Jubilee Street party, St Mark's Longwood

Saturday 17th September Heritage Open Day, stalls, activities and tower abseil
In St Mark's Churchyard (indoors for bad weather)

Please send magazine contributions to revscrook@gmail.com



**For Weddings,
Baptisms, Funerals or
any other enquiry**

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