

A non-church going visitor to a large church this Easter was amazed at the worship, the hymns and the sermon but as she shook hands with the minister at the door she asked this question:

" So that's Easter then. But will Easter make any difference for all these people or will life tomorrow be the same as it was yesterday?"

A good question, which set me thinking - will Easter make a difference to me, to us as a church, as individuals?

By the time you read this we will have journeyed through Holy Week with whatever that means for us, experiencing the moving and reflective worship of Maundy Thursday and Good Friday, the joy of the dawn service and the Eucharist of Easter Day - emerging from the darkness of Christ's road to the cross, the final agonising week of his earthly life into the light of his glorious resurrection.

So that's Easter till next year then, or is it? What happens now? What difference can Easter make and what can change in our lives because of Easter?

Well, the first Easter transformed a motley band of disciples. They became different people because their Lord was not dead but alive, transformed from fearful, confused disciples into joyful witnesses to the risen Jesus in the face of persecution. Reconciliation, compassion, forgiveness and community all become possible when we experience Easter and all are transforming. We are people of God, we have been raised to new life in Christ and we have been made one in him and it is

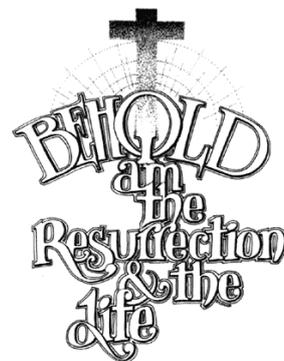
Christ in us, the new me and the new you, that makes the difference. We can use God's eyes to look out at the world and see others as God sees them - friends or strangers, people who are like us and people who are different from us, people we are comfortable with and those we find difficult. Then we become more loving and want to go where God goes to carry his love and his compassion to all who are searching.

So, back to the original question, what difference? What difference will Easter, will God make in my life now? When I feel him wipe away my tears, when he gives me courage when life is hard, when he keeps me from slipping into old ways or asks me to care for his sheep. I wonder whether Christ's resurrection will make any difference to all the people who celebrated Easter in the church I mentioned earlier a week ago, to you, to me.

I wonder whether we will just go back to normal and look forward to next Easter or live as Easter people between now and then. Let's pray that we may recognise the transforming presence of the risen Christ living in us and respond to the difference he can make in our lives.

Amen

Linda Dean



PARISH DIRECTORY

Vicar	Rev. David Maher	351844
Assistant Curate	Rev. Judith Gretton-Dann	750013
Assistant Curate	Rev. Rachel Blanchflower	523066
Assistant Curate	Rev. John Polkinghorne	360743
Assistant Curate	Rev. Harry Rose	01954 211553
Licensed Lay Minister	Linda Dean	328658
Authorised Lay Minister (Admin & Music)	Ruth Banger	07764 613862
Authorised Lay Minister (Pastoral Care)	Lilas Davison	354300
Authorised Lay Minister (Social Awareness)	Liz Collinson	01954 251377
Churchwarden	Fiona Blows	329822
Churchwarden	Philip Morris	352698
PCC Chairman	Rev. David Maher	351844
PCC Vice Chairman	Fiona Blows	329822
PCC Secretary	Ruth Banger	07764 613862
PCC Treasurer	Jinty Keir	572303
PCC Electoral Roll Officer	Lilas Davison	354300
Administrator	Ruth Banger	07764 613862
Convenor PCC Buildings and Grounds Team	David Wilson	720097
Convenor PCC Children and Families Team	Hazel Maher	351844
Convenor PCC Discipleship and Teaching Team	David Maher	351844
Convenor PCC Pastoral Team	Linda Dean	328658
Convenor PCC Social Awareness Team	Liz Collinson	01954 251377
Convenor PCC Worship and Music Team	Ruth Banger	07764 613862
Altar Linen	Margaret Handley	357970
Assistant Treasurer	Bill Elsey	357622
Chalice Bearers	Bill Elsey	357622
Children's Society	Ruby Leyshon	352151
Church Hall Bookings	Ruby Leyshon	352151
Coffee Makers	Guido Barzini	300497
Fund Raising Events Co-ordinators	Ruby Leyshon	352151
Fund Raising Events Co-ordinators	Evelyn Walker	364067
Fund Raising Events Co-ordinators	Paula Carter	07952 919701
Intercessors	John Lamont	565559
Jimmy's Night Shelter	Paula Carter	07952919701
Food Bank	Liz Collinson	01954 251377
Lesson Readers	Rhodri James	357607
Good Shepherd News Editor	Ruth Banger	07764 613862
North Cambridge Area Deanery Synod	Ginni Carroll	01954 212993
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North Cambridge Council of Churches	David Maher	351844
Planned Giving Secretary	Ginni Carroll	01954 212993
Registrar of Planned Giving Envelopes	Lilas Davison	354300
Rural Development Movement	Henry Disney	359396
Sacristan	Stuart Keir	572303
Safeguarding Officer	Paula Carter	07952 919701
Servers	Bill Elsey	357622
Sidesmen & Sideswomen	Fiona Blows	329822
Sound System	David Wilson	07899 917831
Sunday Lunch Club	Jinty Keir	572303

READINGS FOR APRIL

Sundays and holy days

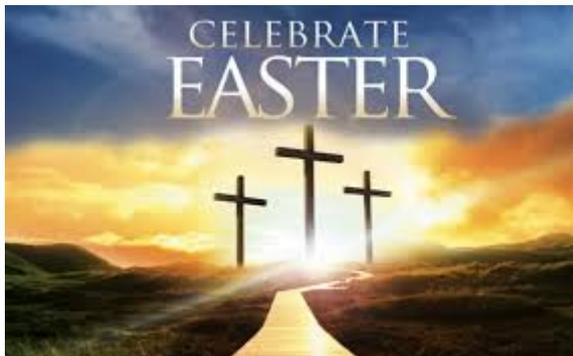
- 3 EASTER 2
Acts 5: 27-32
Rev. 1: 4-8
John 20: 19 - end
- 10 EASTER 3
Acts 9: 1-6
Rev 5: 11 - end
John 21: 1-19
- 17 EASTER 4
Acts 9: 36 – end
Rev 7: 9 - end
John 10: 22-30
- 24 EASTER 5
Acts 11: 1-18
Rev 21: 1-6
John 13: 31-35

Weekdays at 9.30am

- 13 Acts 8: 1-8
John 6: 35-40
- 20 Acts 12: 24 – 13: 5
John 12: 44 - end
- 27 Acts 15: 1-6
John 15: 1-8

FIRST CALL

Sunday April 3 at 7pm in the Chapel



REGULAR SERVICES IN APRIL

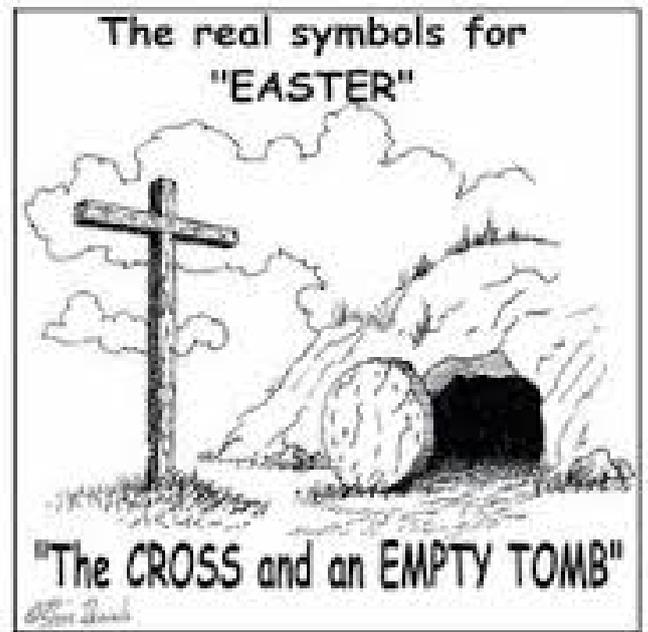
- Sundays 8.30am Holy Communion
10am Parish Communion
- Wednesdays 9.30am Holy Communion
- Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays Morning Prayer, when said in church, will be at 9.15.
Second Monday of each month will be set aside for Staff Prayer.

EVENTS IN APRIL

- Sunday April 3** at 12 noon Sunday Lunch Club meets in the Church Hall
- Sunday April 24** at 11.30 in Church – Annual Parochial Church Meeting

CHURCH CLOSURE

The church will close for a short Easter break after the 10am service on Easter Day (March 27) and will re-open for the 8.30am service on April 10. Between March 28 and April 9 there will be no mid-week services and there will only be a 10am service on April 3



Annual plant & Book sale May 21st 2016

In this cold, damp and blustery weather, May seems a long way off, but now is the time to start thinking about spring planting in the garden. As the clock changes and with it, the weather, it's time to think about splitting perennials, cuttings and seed planting. So when you're "potting up" again this year, please set something aside for the Good Shepherd. We need bedding plants, shrubs, vegetables and herbs of all kinds, like parsley, thyme, coriander, marjoram, sage, etc. The list seems endless, so why not try planting two pots of something different – one for you and one for us!

We look forward to seeing your produce on the day and you will probably find something to take home, too!

Ruby, Evelyn & Paula



If you MUST speed on the highway, sing these hymns loudly:

at 45 mph: "God Will Take Care of You"

at 55 mph: "Guide Me, O Great Jehovah"

at 65 mph: "Nearer My God to Thee"

at 75 mph: "Nearer Still Nearer"

at 85 mph: "This World is Not My Home"

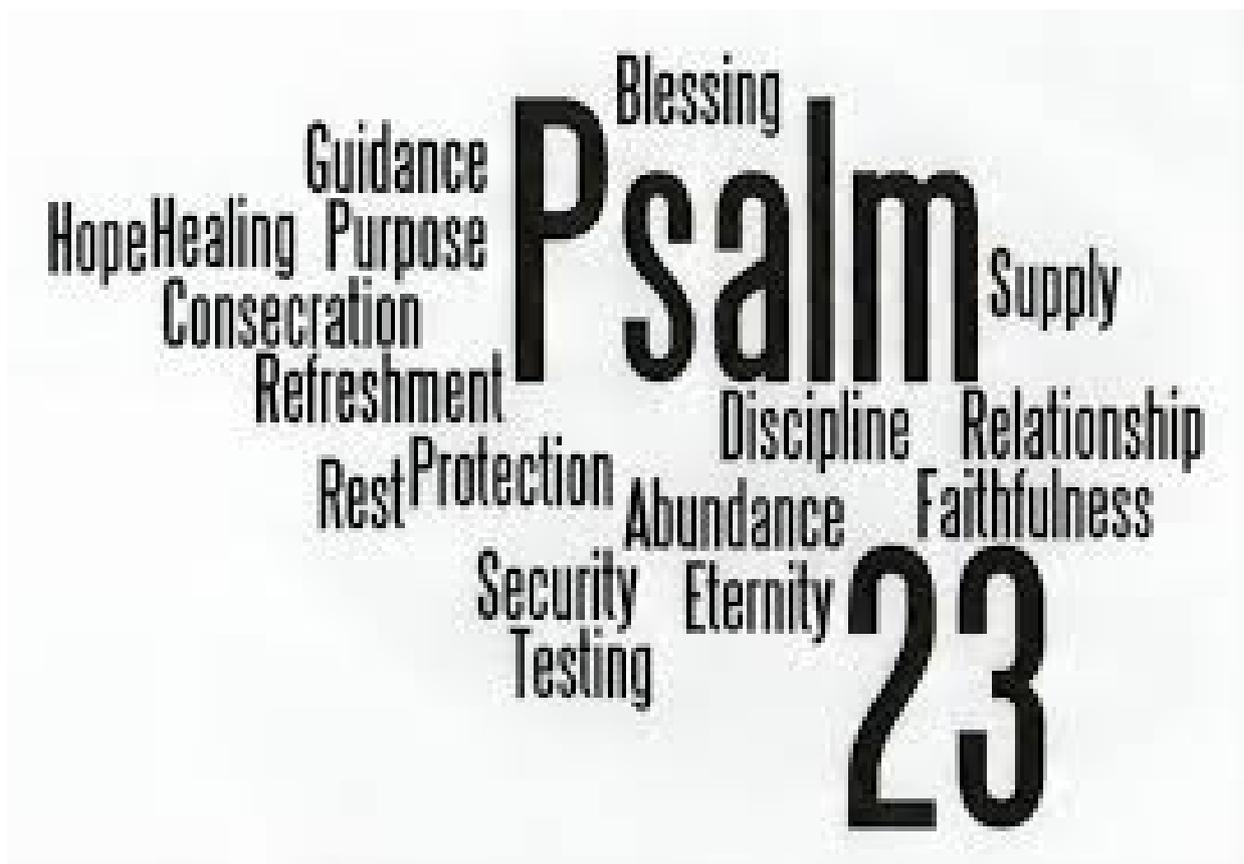
at 95 mph: "Lord, I'm Coming Home"

at 100 mph: "Precious Memories"

PSALM 23 FOR THE WORKPLACE

The Lord is my real boss, and I shall not want.
He gives me peace, when chaos is all around me.
He gently reminds me to pray and do all things without murmuring and complaining.
He reminds me that HE is my source (and not my job.) He restores my sanity everyday and guides my decisions that I might honour him in all that I do.
Even though I face an absurd amount of e-mails, system crashes, unrealistic deadlines, budget cutbacks, gossiping co-workers, discriminating supervisors and an aging body that doesn't cooperate every morning, I still will not stop - for He is with me!
His presence, His peace, and His power will see me through.
He raises me up, even when they fail to promote me.
He claims me as His own, even when the company threatens to let me go.
His faithfulness and love are better than any bonus check.
His retirement plan beats every 401k there is!
When it's all said and done, I'll be working for Him a whole lot longer and for that, I bless His name!

In my House Group we really enjoyed taking a close look at Psalm 23 and then this version popped up on my computer. Enjoy!



THE SILENT SERMON

A member of a certain church, who previously had been attending services regularly, stopped going. After a few weeks, the minister decided to visit him - it was a chilly day. That evening, the minister found the man at home all alone sitting by a blazing fire.

Guessing the reason for his minister's visit, the man welcomed him, and led him to a comfortable chair near the fireplace and waited. The minister made himself at home but said nothing.

In the grave silence, he contemplated the dance of the flames around the burning logs. After some minutes, he took the fire tongs, carefully picked up a brightly burning ember and placed it to one side of the hearth all alone. Then he sat back in his chair, still silent.

The host watched all this in quiet contemplation. As the one lone ember's flame flickered and diminished, there was a momentary glow and then its fire was no more.

Soon it was cold and dead.

Not a word had been spoken since the initial greeting. The minister glanced at his watch and chose this time to leave. He slowly stood up, picked up the cold, dead ember and placed it back in the middle of the fire. Immediately it began to glow once more, with the light and warmth of the burning coals around it.

With that, the minister smiled at his host, shook his hand, and let himself out.



PRUNED

(First published in 'TEACH US OF LOVE'
in 2012)

**Despite the news that's mostly bleak,
I cling to sense of gratitude
For life. Despite the knocks and deeds
I now regret, I must conclude
The joys outweigh the darker side.
It's mix that helps to mould my soul,
Which slowly forms and slower grows
Until I feel I'm nearly whole.
It's when I enter paradise
I'll know the light has vanquished night
And brittle hopes were not in vain.
My sense that all will turn out right
In end will prove no fleeting dream.
For now I've pruned the abstract thought
By which I tried to know our God.
I've learned He's love, as Christ had taught
By word and deed. In that embrace
I muddle on without the need
For flimsy doctrines lacking warmth.
The Holy Spirit's fire's my creed.**

The love of God has been
poured out in our hearts by
the Holy Spirit who was given
to us.....Romans 5:5



WHAT IF GOD HAD VOICEMAIL?

We have all learned to live with voicemail as a necessary part of modern life. But you may have wondered, What if God decided to install voicemail?

Imagine praying and hearing this... "Thank you for calling My Father's House. Please select one of the following options:

Press 1 for requests.

Press 2 for thanksgiving.

Press 3 for complaints.

Press 4 for all other inquiries."

What if God used the familiar excuse... "All the angels are helping other customers right now. Please stay on the line. Your call will be answered in the order it was received."

Can you imagine getting these kinds of responses as you call on God in prayer?

"If you would like to speak to Gabriel, press 1.

For Michael, press 2.

For a directory of other angels, press 3.

If you 'd like to hear King David sing a Psalm while you're on hold, press 4.

To find out if a loved one has been assigned to heaven, enter his or her social security number.

For reservations at My Father's House, press the letters J-O-H-N and then 3-1-6.

For answers to nagging questions about dinosaurs, the age of the earth, and where Noah's ark is, please wait until you arrive here."

"Our computers show that you have already called once today. Please hang up and try again tomorrow."

"This office is closed for the weekend. Please call again on Monday after 9:00 am."

Thank God, you can't call Him too often! "Then you will call and the Lord will answer, you will cry for help, and He will say, 'Here am I.'" (Isaiah 58:9 NIV)



YESTERDAY

(Sung to the tune of the Beatles' song "Yesterday")

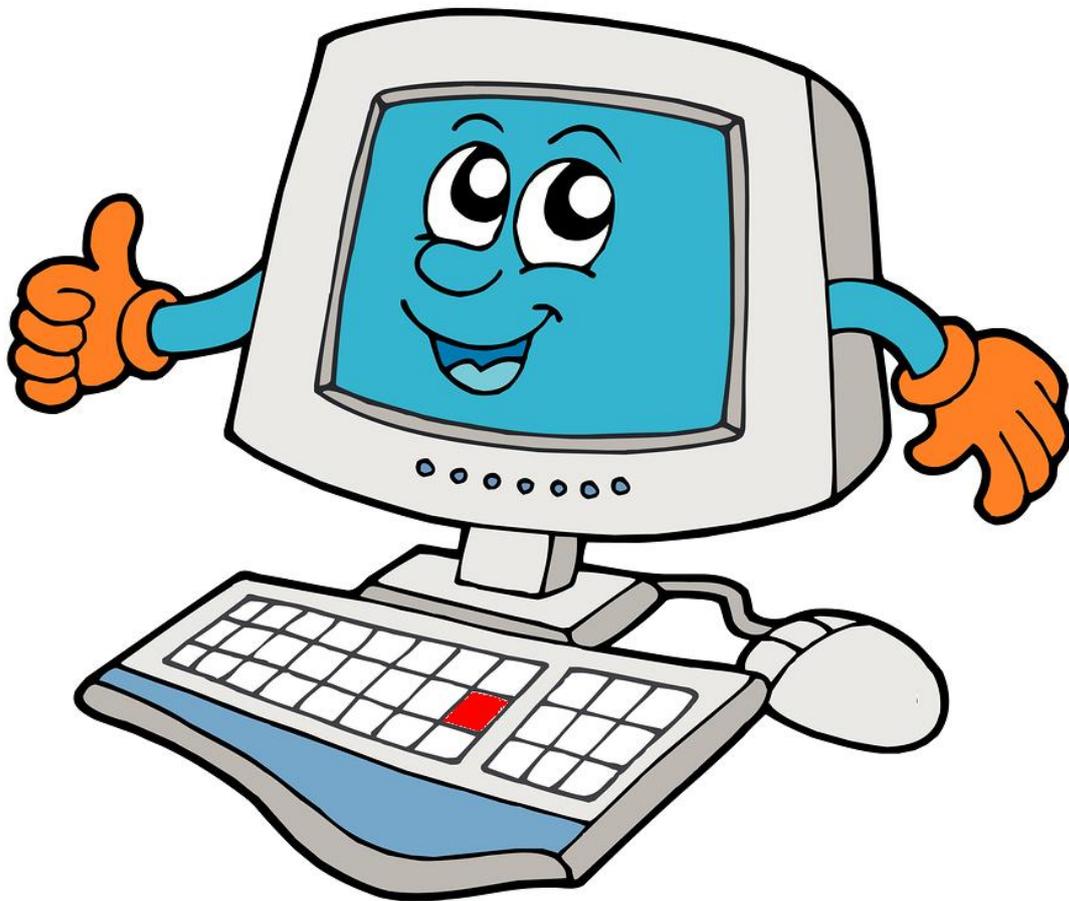
Yesterday,
All those backups seemed a waste of pay.
Now my database has gone away.
Oh I believe in yesterday.

Suddenly,
There's not half the files there used to be,
And there's a milestone hanging over me
The system crashed so suddenly.

I pushed something wrong
What it was I could not say.

Now all my data's gone
and I long for yesterday-ay-ay-ay.

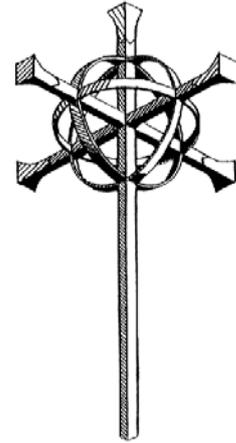
Yesterday,
The need for back-ups seemed so far away.
I knew my data was all here to stay,
Now I believe in yesterday.



IN THE CHURCH HALL (to book call 352151 (evenings))

THE SUNDAY LUNCH CLUB 1 st Sunday of the month noon – 1.30pm	Jinty Keir	572303
RED HEN Monday 8.15 – 11am	Christine O'Reilly	0781 6444439
SANG Monday 10– 11.30 (meets in Haven in Church)	Rachel Blanchflower	523066
THE MONDAY CLUB Monday 2.00 – 3.30pm	Ruby Leyshon	352151
THE GOOD SHEPHERD CUBS Monday 6.30 - 8pm	Charles Brown	07720 441123
LINE DANCING Tuesday 10.15 - 11.45am	Deborah Walker	01954 231382
KEEP FIT 50+ GROUP Tuesday 2.30 - 4pm	Margaret Briggs	01954 250870
THE GOOD SHEPHERD RAINBOWS Tuesday 6.15 – 7.15pm	Miss Rachel Marsh	574520
DOG TRAINING CLASSES Tuesday 7.30 - 9.30pm	Susannah O'Hanlon	235281
CARERS & SUFFERERS OF DEMENTIA Wednesday 10 – 12 noon	The Manager	884031
THE 18th & 25th GOOD SHEPHERD BROWNIES Wednesday 6 - 7.15pm	Mrs Pat Marsh	574520
THE CAMERA CLUB Wednesday 7.30 – 9.30pm	Steve Morrell	529670
ROYAL BRITISH LEGION 3 rd Wednesday of the month 2.30 - 4.30pm January to November	Mr. Gawthrop	351855
UNITE RETIRED MEMBERS' ASSOCIATION 4 th Wednesday of the month 2 – 4pm	Evelyn Hunnyball	364293
ALZHEIMERS DROP IN CAFÉ 12.15 – 3pm on 1 st Thursday of the month	Sheila Burgess	01353 699422
THE GOOD SHEPHERD BEAVERS Thursday 6.15 - 7.30pm	Emma Roberts	426043
THE GOOD SHEPHERD SCOUTS Thursday 7.30 – 9.00pm	Chris White	0700 891511
CHURCH TODDLERS' CLUB Friday 9.15 – 11.30am	Claire Duell	0787 4850867
TAI CHI Friday 2 – 3pm	Mike Tabrett	503390
DOG TRAINING CLASSES Friday 7.30 - 9.30pm	Arbury Road Vet. Surgery	361911

**Submission date for
June Newsletter:
May 15
(Publication date May 29)**



Vicarage 01223 351844

Church Hall bookings
(evenings) 01223 352151

Newsletter Ruth Banger 07764 613862
OR ruthbanger51@gmail.com

CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

Here at the Good Shepherd we like to help you to celebrate and commemorate many of the milestones on the journey through life; these include weddings, anniversaries, funerals, and baptism services.

If you wish to find out more about these, the first step is to contact the Vicar, the Reverend David Maher. He will be able to tell you what is involved and arrange for a meeting with you if you then wish to take things further.

He can be contacted on 01223 351844

Church website: www.churchofthegoodshepherd.co.uk

