



Five Crosses

Tintinhull, Chilthorne Domer, Yeovil Marsh,
Thorne Coffin, Lufton

NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2019

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Dear Friends,

As Christians we reach, in April, the climax of the Christian year as we celebrate Easter.

Easter is the season in which we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus. The pain of death is turned to the exuberant joy of life's victory. We sing our Alleluias in praise of the God who in his Son died on the cross and rose again. We proclaim, as Christians have for nearly two thousand years, *Alleluia! Christ is risen!* We rejoice that because of Jesus' death and resurrection God's gift to us is eternal life in Christ Jesus, our sins are forgiven and our home is in heaven. No other season in the Church's calendar comes near to Easter in significance or in joy.

But ... we know too that this transforming work of God is not complete. The resurrection marks a new beginning, not an end. The story of Jesus does not end with his resurrection; it continues. The life that we see as the tomb is emptied is a new shoot, a new start.

Mary Magdalene was the first to witness the risen Jesus. And it is she, more than any of the other disciples who responds in precisely the right way. Mary falls down in worship and then rushes to

tell Jesus' disciples that, *The Lord is risen!* Initially they must have thought that she had taken leave of her senses. It was impossible; it could not be as she said; she must be mistaken, fantasising in her grief. But later that same day the disciples also see the risen Jesus and they, like Mary, tell Thomas, who was absent, that the Lord is risen. Like them he cannot believe it to be true and refuses to believe until he sees Jesus for himself, which he does the following week. His conversion is complete as he proclaims Jesus to be, *My Lord and my God*. Like Mary he worships Jesus.

There are other stories of disciples meeting the risen Jesus and the first encounter of those disciples with Jesus always leads them to go immediately and tell others. And this pattern of discipleship is a perfect example for us.

If, as I said, Easter is such a time of joy for us because Jesus has risen then we, like the first followers of Jesus, should surely be driven to share that joy, to tell others. If we believe that we have been given the gift of eternal life and citizenship of heaven and that our sins have been forgiven then we too must proclaim that to our friends and neighbours. How could we not?

And this is how the transforming work of God continues. Just as his disciples spread the good news so must we. As they brought others to follow and to know the risen Lord, so must we. Good news that is not shared is no news at all.

I do hope that you will be able to join us on Easter Day in our churches to celebrate and proclaim the risen Jesus. And if you believe in Jesus and share his risen life you will also wish to share it with others. Tell them that on Easter Day Jesus rose from the dead to reveal a God of love who gives us life with him. That love has won the victory and that true life is God's gift to us.

May this Easter be a time of blessing and new life for you. ***Alleluia! Christ is risen!***

With Easter blessings in Jesus' name,

Fr Peter

Letter from the Right Reverend Peter Hancock, Bishop of Bath and Wells :

"He is not here. He is risen!"

"I heard a wonderful story recently about a Church Sunday School which was putting on a drama telling the story of Holy Week and Easter. All had gone well and the wonderful moment arrived when the angel appeared to the women at the tomb to declare those glorious words: '*He is not here, he is risen.*' (Luke 24:6). Unfortunately, five year old Brian could not remember what to say, and so the Youth Leader had to quietly remind him of his line. He then confidently grabbed the microphone and triumphantly shouted, 'He's not here; He's in prison!'

As we move this month from Lent into Holy Week and onto Good Friday I am sure we are all looking forward to Easter Day when we shall once again hear those words ring out 'He is not here, he is risen!' And we shall rejoice and celebrate again the glorious truth that Jesus rose from the dead. Death could not hold him. When Jesus began his ministry in Galilee he declared that: 'The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to preach good news to the poor, to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to release the oppressed and to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour.' And those words from Isaiah help us under-

stand why Jesus came. He came to proclaim freedom for the prisoner and to release the oppressed. He came that we might 'have life and have it to the full'. He came to release us from our sins and set us free from our fears. He came that we might know God and that through knowing God we might have eternal life. 'I am the resurrection and the life' he said. 'Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die.'

The good news of the Easter message is that although Jesus died upon the cross he rose again and through his resurrection he overcame the power of sin and the sting of death. That is why Paul could write: 'Thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.' (1 Corinthians 15: 57). This Easter let us give thanks that Jesus is not dead. He is not in prison. He is risen indeed!

Alleluia!"

News from around the Parishes

TINTINHULL

John Gower writes: "The PCC, in conjunction with the Village Hall committee, hosted a production of The Mikado preformed by The Somerset Operatic Society. It was very successful and my thanks to all who gave their time to make this event memorable. My personal thanks, as I was running the Bar, to Flora, my new bar maid, and those who washed up the glasses. A special thanks to Ray Cozens who sold well over half the tickets and this did not happen by accident. He also is heavily involved with the Spring Flower and Craft show along with Graffiti Classics which will be over by the time you read this. The Mikado raised £965.28p which will be shared equally between the Village Hall and St Margaret's, so our church restoration fund has only *circa* £217,215 to find! Fantastic news to hear that Hayley Robinson has been appointed as Head of St. Margaret's School and I wish her every success in her leadership and hope she will be happy here. There were some thanks from Pat and myself last month for people helping run our Church in

Tintinhull. This month we continue with our thanks to Fr. Peter for the way he takes our services and to Sallyann Batstone and Norman Preston who have so ably supported him. Unfortunately, Norman Preston is not well but always in our thoughts."Also, to the PCC, readers, sidesmen, Choir, Ann our Organist and all those providing refreshments who put so much effort into the smooth running of the Church, along with those doing rotas. My special thanks to Pat for all she does in her role of Churchwarden."

Hilary, Church flower organiser writes: "Many of you will remember that Margaret Gowring once organised church flowers and was certainly in charge when Ray and I came to Tintinhull in 2005. Following that Denny Robbins took on her mantle and now it is my pleasure to see to things floral in St Margaret's aided wonderfully by our dedicated but fairly small team. Margaret and Richard have now left the village having decided to relocate to be nearer to loved ones. We will miss them and wish them well in their new surroundings and thank them both for all their unstinting church work over many years. Apart from being a wonderful Church Treasurer, Richard will be remembered for his famous Take Art fundraising magic. This is still going albeit not really under that same umbrella, but the forthcoming Graffiti Classics fundraiser is going to be run along his usual format with interval supper and the raffle! So God Bless them both in their new home. Whilst on the subject of flowers, we are arranging Easter flowers on Saturday 20th April. Opening at 9am to noon; why not come along if you're interested to see arrangers at work? The team does need new help to top up our numbers and will gladly work along side anyone who would like to learn church flower arranging. Also if you would like to make a donation for Easter flowers please let me have the name of a missed loved one you would like remembered on our Easter Sunday memorial list. My details are at the top of the Newsletter."

On 5th March the Funeral of Barry Cornelius was held at St Margaret's. and

on 8th March the Funeral of John Herrod was held at Yeovil Crematorium.

CHILTHORNE DOMER

Angie Clothier writes: "St Mary's are holding the Parochial Church Council Annual General Meeting on Monday 8 April, 7.30pm in the Church. All are welcome.

Advance notice of the return of the Big Breakfast on Bank Holiday Monday 27 May. This time we are joint fundraising with the Recreation Centre in the hope of having more helpers. Anyone willing to help at this event or in the tea tent at the village fete on Sat 6 July please contact Angie on 841659. "

During March the Baptism of Arthur Jason Alan Hempstead was held at St Mary's and also two Funerals - for David Lote and for Les Simpson. May they rest in peace. Remember their families in your prayers.

YEOVIL MARSH

Just a reminder that our AGM will be held in All Saints' starting 7pm on 11th April. It would be lovely to see you there if you can make it.

LUFTON

Susan Collins writes: "The Lent Talks will conclude in Lufton on Wednesday 3rd April at the amended time of 7pm. Services during Holy Week are on the reverse. Our AGM & Easter Vestry will take place following the Service in the Church on Sunday 28th April. There are only a few of us in the congregation at Lufton Church, who continue to faithfully worship and share the necessary various tasks, with the welcome assistance of other individuals who help with grass cutting and tidying the Churchyard. We are always very grateful to all who help in any way, including the Lufton College students, who 'do their bit'. At Easter the Church will, as usual, look clean, well cared for and beautifully decorated with flowers, either provided, or arranged by members of our small congregation. Do join us during Lent or to celebrate Easter in our warm Church. We wish all in the Benefice and beyond a Happy Easter."

SERVICES DURING APRIL 2019

Day	Tintinhull	Chilthorne Domer	Lufton	Yeovil Marsh	Thorne Coffin
April 2 nd		10 am (BCP) Eucharist			
April 7 th Lent 5			6pm Evensong		10.30am Benefice Eucharist
April 14 th Palm Sunday	8 am Eucharist (BCP) 10.45 am Together4God	10.45am Matins	6pm Evensong		4pm Evensong
April 15 th Monday in Holy Week		7pm Eucharist			
April 16 th Tuesday in Holy Week				7pm Eucharist	
April 17 th Wednesday in Holy Week			7 pm Eucharist		
April 18 th Maundy Thursday	7.30pm Benefice Eucharist of the Last Supper				
April 19 th Good Friday	10.30am Together4God	12 noon Good Friday Liturgy	2 pm The Last Hour	2pm Good Friday Prayer & Praise	4pm Evening Prayer
April 20 th Easter Eve				8.30pm Easter Vigil & Eucharist	
April 21 st Easter Day	9.15 am Parish Eucharist	10.45 am Parish Eucharist	6pm Holy Communion (BCP)		8am Eucharist
April 28 th Easter 2	9.15 am Parish Eucharist	See Yeovil Marsh	6 pm Eucharist (BCP)	11 am Parish Eucharist Yeovil Marsh & Chilthorne Domer	
May 5 th Easter 3			10.30 am Benefice Eucharist (BCP)		