

♦ Trinity Methodist Church ♦ Kidderminster ♦

Trinity *Tidings*



'Albion' a Norfolk Wherry - Photo by Rev'd. Nick Collison

April 2023

Easter
Edition

...all are welcome in this place!



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**The closing date for items for the May Edition of Trinity Tidings is
Sunday 30th April 2023**

**Please email articles, preferably as a Word Document to:
arleystation@aol.com**

Thanks to John Harris for Designing the Front and back covers,
and to Jon Skitt for putting magazine online each month.

Front Cover Photograph:

SABBATICAL...ON LOCATION

"Spirituality in Photography" - Taking pictures with a deeper vision!



'Albion' a Norfolk Wherry
Photo by Rev'd. Nick Collison

April's Photo is a picture of 'Albion' a Norfolk Wherry heading toward the ruins of St. Benet's Abbey along the river Bure.

She was built in 1898 and nearly lost in January 1929 when she sank near Great Yarmouth bridge.

However, she was raised three days later (sounds familiar!) and has since been restored to her former glory!

Nick

Dear Friends,

Following on from my last 'Minister's Letter' in the March edition of Tidings (you may remember I spoke about how my role within the circuit was changing and how I might have to reconsider how I deploy my time), I just want to say that I will still make time for you. I believe that is central to ministry and the most important use of my time, and I wouldn't want to think anyone didn't feel they could approach me for fear of adding to my workload, or because you think I might be too busy to listen.

I hope to always have time to listen!

~~~~~

Anyway, thinking about this month's letter . . .

I can't believe it is nearly Easter already, it's only 5 minutes since it was Christmas!

I was reminded the other day about when 'Easter People' was a thing. For those who can't remember Easter People it was an idea put forward by Rob Frost to enable and encourage personal renewal and growth in the lives of individuals, and renewal in the Methodist Church.

The first one was held in 1988 in Pontins in Sussex, where the Rev'd Dr Donald English led bible studies on the Four Alls of Methodism. Over 900 people attended the event and it was a great success, so much so that it was decided to repeat it the following year on the same site, when the numbers rose to 1200. It was evident after the first two years that this was not just an event but an emerging movement that was clearly unstoppable.

Easter People outgrew Pontins and in 1990 moved to Llandudno. In subsequent years it was taken to Torquay, Scarborough, Blackpool, Bournemouth and Southport. Numbers were growing each year and folk were able to attend for the full week, part of the week or just stay for one day if that's all they could manage. In 2000 the event was held in Bournemouth and was one of the largest ever, with over 10,000 people attending. The theme focussed on 'Jesus in a New Millennium'.

After this it was decided to split the event into three different locations around the country, all operating simultaneously. The idea being that this would allow for new growth and encourage other denominations to take part, moving away from a predominantly Methodist focussed event to a more interdenominational one.

Over the years there were many highlights, including television programmes that were recorded from Easter People, such as Songs of Praise and Morning Worship. In 1999, the year Kosovo was invaded, the refugee crisis that resulted came to a head during the Easter People week. Easter People responded by mobilising the thousands attending to donate clothing or bedding to be sent out to Kosovo. This action made headline news at the time.

The final Easter People was held Blackpool 19 years after it began (and sadly Rev'd Dr Rob Frost died the same year in 2007). But as Easter approaches again this year I can't help but think of all the good work that was done and the people reached with the gospel because of Easter People and Rob's vision, and how we could do with some of that Spiritual renewal again now. It is also worth reminding ourselves that we are all 'Easter People', not just during the Easter season, but all year round.

May we all be blessed by the God of the Easter People.

Blessings to you all,

*Nick*

# PRAYER CORNER

We remember in our prayers Liz potter, Les Fuller, Margot Stanton, Betty Norman, Josephine Seremwe, Kate Ralph, those on the Prayer Vine and people we know who need the love, comfort and the knowledge of Christ's presence with them.



During the month of April,

Please remember in prayer

## Offmore and Comberton

April

St Chad's, Offmore and Milton Hall  
Baptist Churches.

Offmore and Comberton Primary  
Schools and Nurseries - King Charles 1  
School.

Offmore Farm Rest Home,  
Nightingales, Holmwood Nursing Homes

Sandlewood Assisted Living

Children's Centre

Residential Housing

Retail Units and Trading

Women's Refuge

Kidderminster Cricket Club



May the God who shakes heaven and earth,  
whom death could not contain,  
who lives to disturb and heal us,  
bless us with the power to go forth  
and proclaim the gospel.

"Why do you seek the living among the dead? He is not here, he is risen!"



## From the Editor...

Dear Friends,

A few weeks ago a car came into the station yard, and a lady got out and was obviously looking for someone. I went out ask if I could help. She asked if I was anything to do with the station, and when I told her that I live there, she said that she had a clock in the boot of her car which belonged to Arley Station. She opened the boot, and inside was this clock.



I went to lift it out and she told me that it was very heavy - she wasn't joking! It is slate, attached to an internal stone frame which is why it is so heavy. The pillars are marble, as is the inlay. She told me that her grandfather had been the licensee of The Harbour Inn just down the road from the station. When he left the Harbour the clock went with him, although he was not the recipient. After he died, his granddaughter was clearing the house and found the clock. It has an engraved silver plaque on it. The words on it are:

Presented to FREDERICK TAME by the inhabitants of Arley  
after his 9 years service at Arley Station. April 1902

With some help we have found out that he was in the 1901 census and his occupation was a porter at Arley earning 20 shillings a week. The Great Western archive tell us that he was porter/signalman at Arley and in 1902 he moved from Arley Station to Yarnton Station in Oxfordshire as signalman. Unfortunately he died in November of the same year. He came from Shropshire, and while living in Arley he met and married Sarah Lawley. There is a Lawley family farming in Arley, so perhaps she is an ancestor.

There is a puzzle, and that is why would the inhabitants of a small village present Frederick, a station porter, with what would have been in 1902 an expensive clock, and why did he not take it with him when he left? I don't expect we shall ever find the answer to the puzzle. Perhaps some more research is needed.

At Arley we are wondering whether to have it repaired, and then where to put it. It is far too heavy to place on a mantleshelf.

They say time flies – but this clock is too heavy to get off the ground.

David



## Offertories for the four weeks ended 19 March 2023 are as follows

|                  | Envelopes | Loose Cash | Standing Orders | Total   |
|------------------|-----------|------------|-----------------|---------|
|                  | £         | £          | £               | £       |
| 26.02 & 05.03.23 | 211.00    | 130.00     | 1309.80         | 1650.80 |
| 12.03 & 19.03.23 | 116.00    | 166.00     | 1482.00         | 1764.00 |

These amounts give a weekly average of £853.70

For the current church year to 31<sup>st</sup> August 2023 it is estimated that offertories of £1250 per week will be required to break even.

### Dishwasher

We are extremely grateful to one of our members for the donation of a dishwasher and to those who made a first-class job of installing it.

## SERVICES IN APRIL

|                        |         |                                                        |
|------------------------|---------|--------------------------------------------------------|
| April 2 <sup>nd</sup>  | 10.30am | <b>PALM SUNDAY</b> — Joint service with Baxter         |
|                        | 6.30pm  | Rev Sue Levitt                                         |
| April 9 <sup>th</sup>  | 10.30am | <b>EASTER DAY</b> — Rev Nick Collison - Holy Communion |
|                        | 6.30pm  | Rev Peter Levitt                                       |
| April 16 <sup>th</sup> | 10.30am | <b>LOCAL PREACHER'S Sunday</b> - Mrs Janet Murray      |
|                        | 6.30pm  | Mr Ray Simpson                                         |
| April 23 <sup>rd</sup> | 10.30am | Rev Peter Levitt                                       |
|                        | 6.30pm  | Rev Andrew Mann-Ray                                    |
| April 30 <sup>th</sup> | 10.30am | Mrs Sue Stinton                                        |
|                        | 6.30pm  | Mr David Skitt                                         |

### THURSDAY SERVICES all at 12.30pm

|                        |                                                       |
|------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| April 6 <sup>th</sup>  | Maunday Thursday — Rev Nick Collison — Holy Communion |
| April 13 <sup>th</sup> | Mr David Skitt                                        |
| April 20 <sup>th</sup> | Rev Sue Levitt — Holy Communion                       |
| April 27 <sup>th</sup> | Rev Andrew Mann-Ray                                   |

**ALL EASTER SERVICES ARE ON A SEPARATE PAGE**

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## SINGING THE FAITH

The Methodist Church has planned a revision of our hymn book, Singing The Faith.

All archaic words, such as 'thee', 'thou', 'thine' etc. will be altered or removed, and the words 'he' or 'she' will be changed to 'they' to be in-line with gender identity.

Work on the hymn book will begin on April 1<sup>st</sup>.



# Easter Services

at Trinity in Holy Week



Monday 3rd April at 7pm - Led by Mr. David Skitt

Tuesday 4th April at 7pm - Led by Mrs. Sue Stinton

Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> April at 7pm  
Led by Rev'd. Andrew Mann-Ray

Maundy Thursday - 6<sup>th</sup> April at 7pm

Led by Rev'd. Nick Collison

A simple meal of Cottage Pie and Dessert of Apple Crumble & Custard  
will be served, followed by Holy Communion.

Please add your name to the sign-up sheet in Foyer if you are attending

Good Friday - 7<sup>th</sup> April at 9.30am

Led by Rev'd. Nick Collison

A Good Friday Walk of Witness will leave Trinity at approximately 10.30am,  
to outside the Town Hall for a short service which will begin at 11am

**Easter Day - Sunday 9th April**



• **10.30am** Joint Service of Holy Communion  
with Baxter URC

**Led by Rev'd. Nick Collison**

**On Easter Day:** Please bring a single or small posy of unwrapped  
flowers, to decorate our Easter Cross. *Thank you*

• **6.30pm** Evening Service

**Led by Rev'd. Peter Levitt**



## April Newsletter: Easter Joy!

Dear Friends,

I have been struggling to know what to write to you for this April Newsletter because we are celebrating the core of our faith at the start of the month with Easter with the joy of the resurrection. I have been wondering what I can say that hasn't been said many times over in the past and what encouragement I can offer you that you don't already know about the story of Easter. Perhaps I should just leave it there and wish you a Happy Easter?

I'll do that anyway at the end of this letter but I wanted to say that however familiar the story of Easter is to us and our faith in God through Jesus, it's message is as important as it ever was. Too often overfamiliarity with the story of faith can lead to us being complacent and instead of offering heartfelt thanks to God for what he has done for us we simply say we know all this or we doubt it because of its incredible nature. Both are dangerous places to be because being overfamiliar with the story means that we don't give God the honour and glory that is due to him, or because the story is so incredible we doubt it ever truly happened and consign it to the realm of fairy tale.

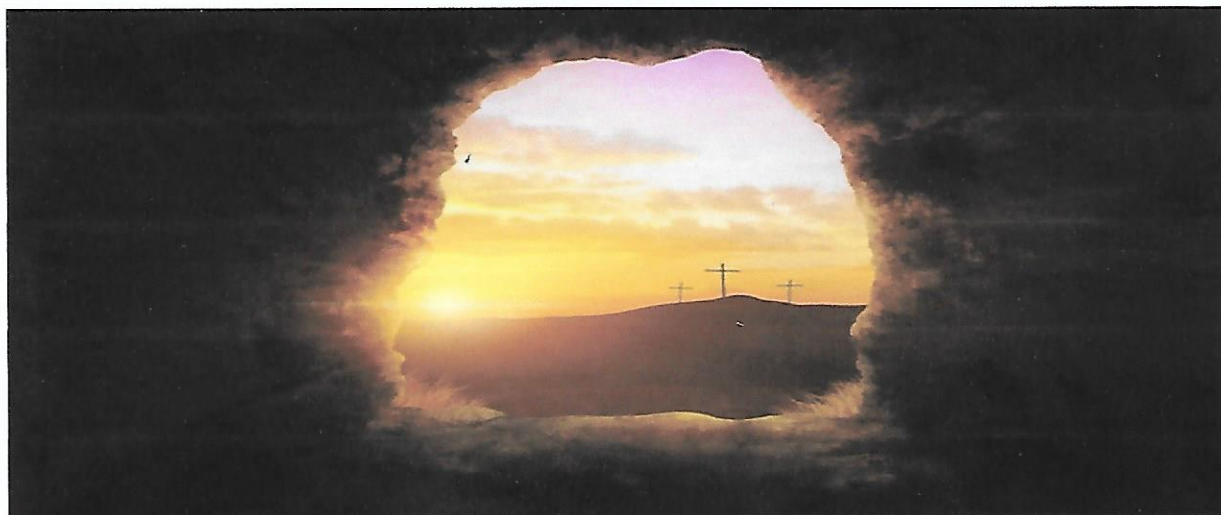
We must avoid this at all costs because if we don't have the faith and commitment to God that the Easter story demands of us how will we ever be effective witnesses for the gospel to those beyond the four walls of our churches? We must take the mystery of the resurrection seriously and we must give heartfelt thanks for what has been achieved through Jesus' death and resurrection for us and for the world. Otherwise we are failing in our mission as disciples.

Let's remind ourselves this Holy week and Easter time that Jesus goes up to Jerusalem, is handed over to the chief priests and the teachers of the law to be put to death, in order that God's plan of salvation could be accomplished for us and for the world. Let's remind ourselves that through the cross we are set free from sin and from everything that weighs us down and that through Jesus we can come into God's presence unafraid to rest secure in his love and to experience life in all its fullness as God always intended. And let's remind ourselves that through the resurrection death is dead, love has won and Christ has conquered. The mystery of the cross and the hope of the resurrection demands our whole lives and having witnessed what has been achieved for us we need to remember to give thanks and celebrate with each other and with those who are still unaware of what God has done for them.

Let's this Easter time be better witnesses for our faith and for our God and let's go into the rest of the year confident of what God has achieved for us and what God continues to do in and through us.

May I wish you all a very Happy Easter!

Yours in Christ,                      Andrew







CORONATION

# big lunch



Join us after the service to  
celebrate the coronation of  
King Charles III

Bring and share lunch (see sign  
up sheet on notice board)

Please bring your own non-  
alcoholic drinks

Be ready for games and a song





# Coffee Morning

Saturday 20th May

10am-12pm

Trinity Methodist Church



Proceeds go to Christian Aid

Tea, coffee, squash, and butties available.



# Trinity Cookbook

Have you got any recipes you'd like to share?



You can send in more than one!

## Recipes:

- Starters
- Mains
- Sides
- Desserts

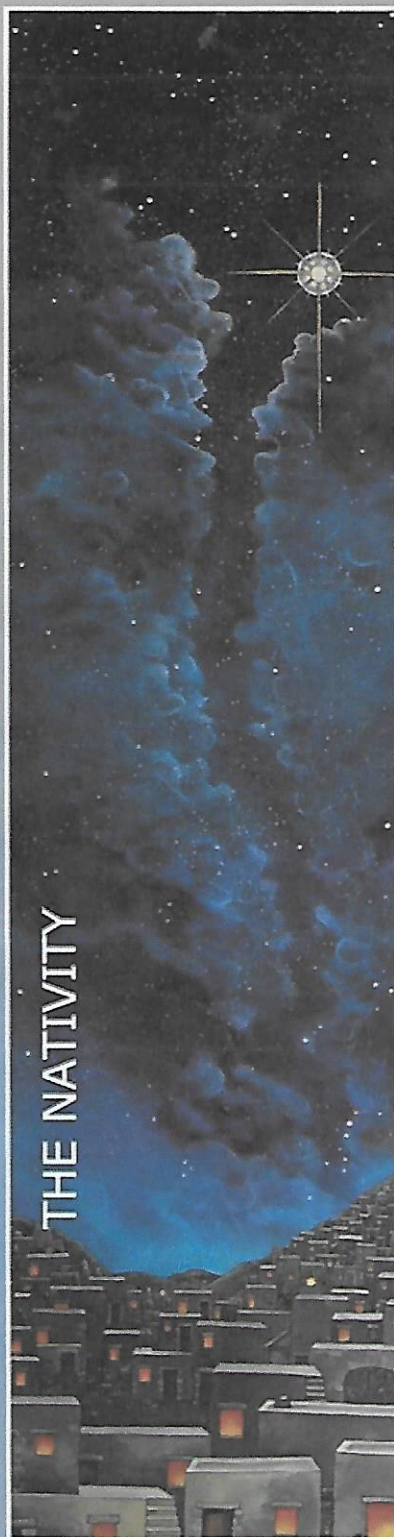
## Must include:

- Ingredients
- Servings
- Timings
- Method
- Picture

trinitysocialcommittee@gmail.com



Trinity Methodist Church, Kidderminster  
presents



"Paintings that explore  
the Life, Death and Resurrection of  
Jesus, the Christ"  
A Series of Original Paintings on Tour  
by Artist Jeremy Thomas



THE HUMAN ONE - EXHIBITION

**Exhibition  
Open: \***

The paintings are full of hidden details and threads, only becoming visible as you delve below the surface.  
Please take time to study these superb pieces of work in the quietness of the sanctuary and admire what you can find.

**Saturday 20th May - Wednesday 7th June 2023**

**10am- to 3pm** (\*Not open to the Public on Sundays)

at Trinity Methodist Church, Churchfields, Kidderminster DY10 2JL



# NATIONAL MEMORIAL ARBORETUM

A trip to the National Memorial Arboretum in Staffordshire has been arranged using Philipp's coach for

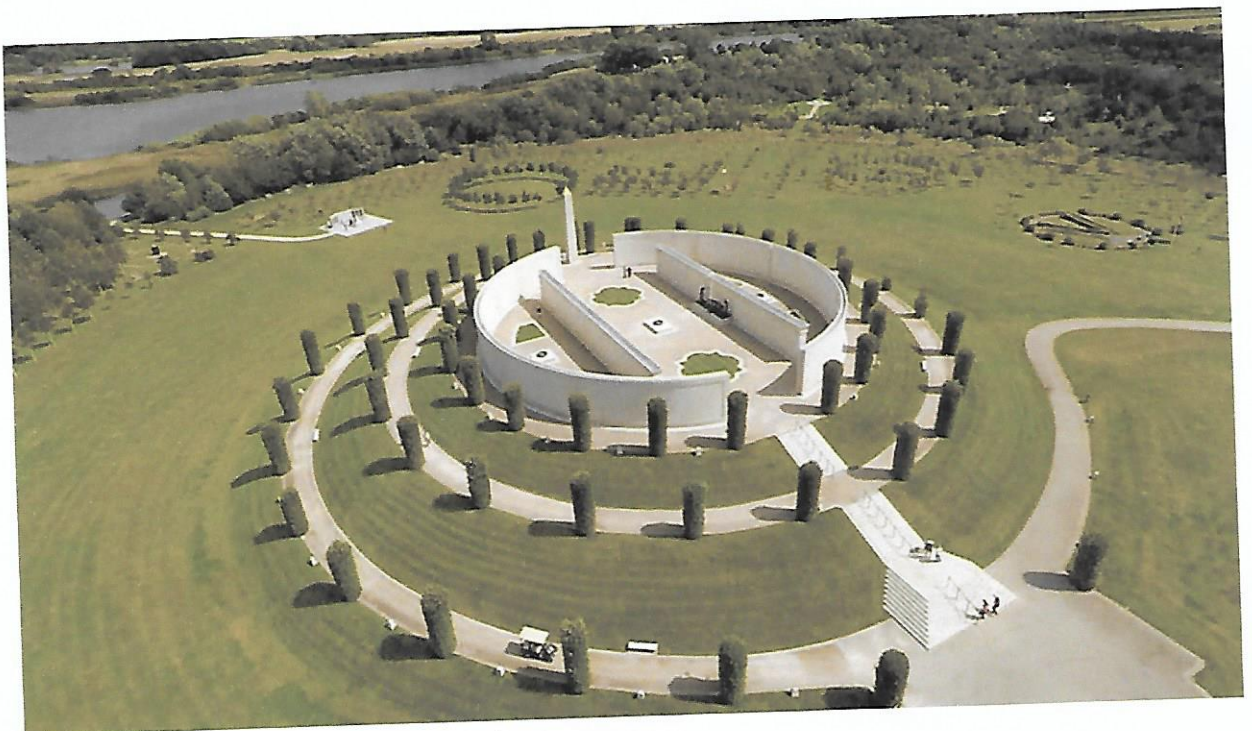
MONDAY JUNE 26<sup>th</sup>

Departing Trinity to arrive at the NMA in time for the 11.00am Last Post.

The cost would be £20 per person.

If you are interested then please let David Skitt know.

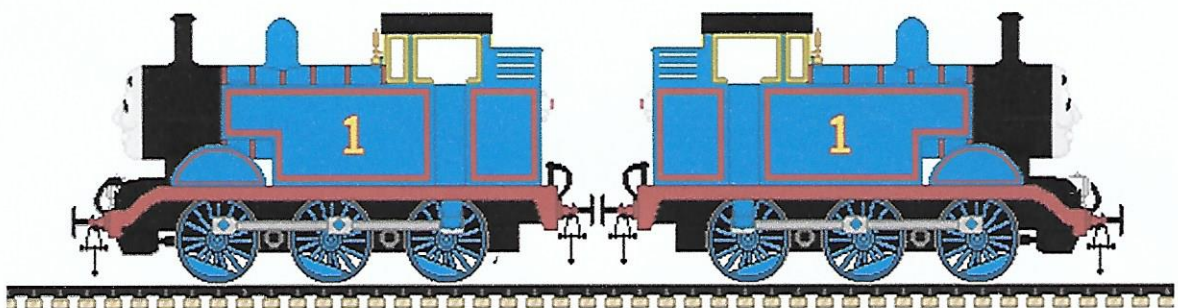
Money is not required yet.





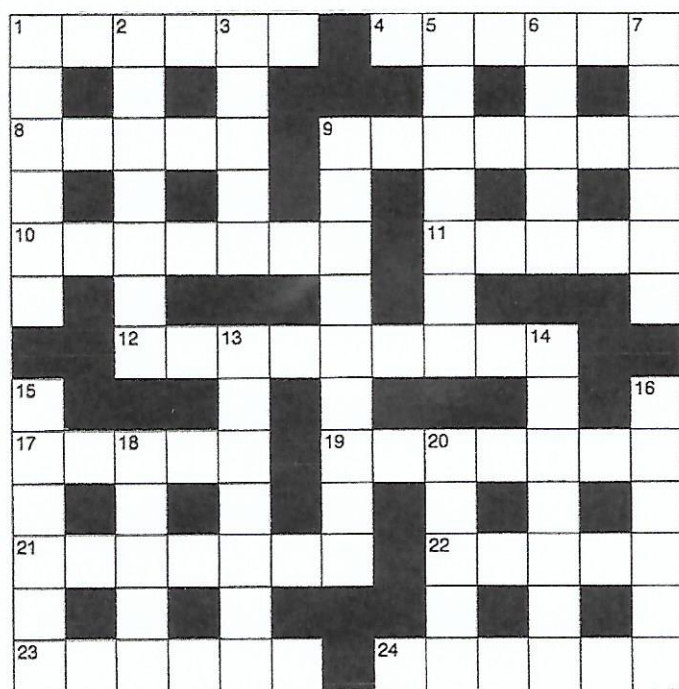
## A Quiz About means of Transport

1. In which year did the Channel Tunnel open?
2. What was the name of the supersonic passenger plane jointly developed by Britain and France?
3. Which minister of transport opened the M1?
4. Who drew up the scheme to make the railways profitable by closing many lines?
5. Name the three railway stations in Birmingham city centre.
6. Who designed the Steam ship 'Great Eastern'?
7. In which year did the 'Titanic' sink?
8. Who rides in the Golden Coach?
9. What did John McAdam develop?
10. What powers the Lynmouth/Lynton railway?
11. 4 feet 8.5 inches is the distance between what?
12. Who designed and built a vehicle called Model T?
13. Where is the National Railway Museum?
14. Why did Edward Elgar buy a Royal Sunbeam. What was it?
15. Who design the WW2 fighter aircraft the 'Spitfire'?
16. An overnight sleeper travels between London Paddington station and where?
17. What happened to Ernest Shackleton's ship 'Endurance'?
18. What mode of transport travels along Blackpool seafront?
19. What was a dirigible?
20. Which ship was found sailing on the Atlantic Ocean with nobody on board?
21. In the film Apollo 13 which actor said "Huston, we have a problem"?
22. In the film 'Oh Mr Porter' why was Will Hay sent to Buggleskelly?
23. What is a 'luge'?
24. Where did the 'Mary Rose' sink?
25. In which country is the 'Bullet Train'?
26. What links the Pacific Ocean with the Caribbean?
27. What, according to tradition, takes four years to paint from end to end?
28. Where would you find a gondola?
29. Which is the longest motorway in this country?
30. Who were the brothers who invented and flew the first heavier than air aircraft?
31. Who wrote the 'Thomas the Tank Engine' books





## Parish Pump Crossword



## Sudoku puzzle

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
|   |   |   |   |   | 5 | 3 | 2 |   |
|   |   |   |   |   | 3 | 8 | 7 | 5 |
|   |   |   | 8 | 7 | 1 |   | 6 |   |
| 4 |   |   | 1 |   | 2 | 9 |   | 7 |
|   | 6 |   | 9 |   | 8 |   | 5 |   |
| 3 |   | 9 | 7 |   | 4 |   |   | 8 |
|   | 1 |   | 5 | 8 | 6 |   |   |   |
| 5 | 4 | 7 | 3 |   |   |   |   |   |
|   | 8 | 2 | 4 |   |   |   |   |   |

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### Across

- 1 Relating to the whole universe (6)
- 4 The disciple who made the remark in 8 Across (John 20:24) (6)
- 8 'Unless I see the nail marks — — hands, I will not believe it' (John 20:25) (2,3)
- 9 He urged King Jehoiakim not to burn the scroll containing Jeremiah's message (Jeremiah 36:25) (7)
- 10 Baptist minister and controversial founder of America's Moral Majority, Jerry — (7)
- 11 'Look, here is — . Why shouldn't I be baptized?' (Acts 8:36) (5)
- 12 Repossessed (Genesis 14:16) (9)
- 17 Port from which Paul sailed on his last journey to Rome (Acts 27:3-4) (5)
- 19 'Moses was not aware that his face was — because he had spoken with the Lord' (Exodus 34:29) (7)
- 21 Roonwit, C.S. Lewis's half-man, half-horse (7)
- 22 Grill (Luke 24:42) (5)
- 23 'The lot fell to Matthias; so he was added to the — apostles' (Acts 1:26) (6)
- 24 'I was sick and you looked after me, I was in — and you came to visit me' (Matthew 25:36) (6)

### Down

- 1 Coastal rockfaces (Psalm 141:6) (6)
- 2 Academic (1 Corinthians 1:20) (7)
- 3 Publish (Daniel 6:26) (5)
- 5 For example, the Crusades (4,3)
- 6 11 Across is certainly this (5)
- 7 He reps (anag.) (6)
- 9 Liberator (Psalm 18:2) (9)
- 13 Man who asked the question in 11 Across was in charge of all her treasury (Acts 8:27) (7)
- 14 They must be 'worthy of respect, sincere, not indulging in much wine' (1 Timothy 3:8) (7)
- 15 The human mind or soul (6)
- 16 'O Lord, while precious children starve, the tools of war increase; their bread is — ' (Graham Kendrick) (6)
- 18 'We played the flute for you, and you did not — ' (Matthew 11:17) (5)
- 20 Bared (anag.) (5)



## GARDENING NOTES FOR APRIL

April is often famed her showers and this weather lore is based on fact, we may experience short, sharp downpours. Hail, rain, snow and thunder are quite common. Fortunately April is characterised by a pleasant mixture of fair, to fine conditions. Good sunny spells, frequent cool showers and chilly nights with the tantalizing hint of warmer weather later on.

One thing that will be evident this month will be the greening of the lawn as the grass has its first flush of spring. Mowings will become more frequent, with the blades set high to begin with. Aerating and scarifying established lawns will improve neglected areas and will allow water, light and air to penetrate down through the soil, and will remove dead and decaying material from the upper surface. Repair damaged edges.

If the weather is favourable, and by that I mean not frosty, prune back forsythia to promote new growth. Cut back stems of buddleia to a stronger pair of buds and don't be shy about it, it will respond well to a hard prune. If the weather in March precluded the pruning of roses then don't delay, do it now and feed with a proprietary food and hoe into the surface.

April is the ideal time to divide and split established clumps of herbaceous perennials. After gently lifting the established clump the splitting of herbaceous perennials is a simple task. Simply pull apart with your fingers into individual plants, or if the clump is a little more congested, then the best method is to insert two forks back-to-back and rock the forks back and forth until the clump is severed apart, then split as above.

Once bulbs have flowered remove flowers before they expend energy in producing unwanted seed. If the weather happens to be exceptionally dry then give the bulbs a good watering as this will help the bulb to store up energy for the next year, this is especially important for daffodils. A late mulching of beds and borders helps to suppress weeds and conserve moisture. Good garden compost or spent mushroom compost is ideal for this purpose, although remember that the latter should not be under any circumstances be applied around lime-hating subjects such as camellias or rhododendrons, as spent mushroom compost is very alkaline in nature. Apply mulches after rain to maximise their effect.

Pond plants will begin to grow this month and the pool will often have its first algal bloom. Don't worry - if the pool is balanced the green will disappear next month as the oxygenators put on growth. Feed fish sparingly at this stage, especially if the weather is cool.

*Anemone Pavonina* is truly spectacular for spring colour. A native of grassy hillsides and olive groves along the shores of the Mediterranean, this tuberous perennial is equally happy here in the Midlands. For best results plant in a well-drained, sunny position and they will, over time, reward you with a spectacular display of early spring colour. Usually reaching a height of around 18" they appear in a variety of shades from purple, pink through to scarlet and white. Like most things originating from the Med. They go to sleep when it gets hot, becoming dormant throughout the summer, to reappear in the autumn with fresh growth. They are simply charming.

Writing these notes in March it's hard to imagine the warmth that awaits us within the next few weeks. I am sure that by the time you read these jottings spring will be well and truly with us. The sun will be out, the birds will be singing and nesting, the garden will be bursting into colour and winter will be a distant memory.

Whatever the weather, enjoy your garden: it's the only one you've got!

Bob





## It's Easter

One thing we have to be grateful for is Noddy Holder from Slade declaring "It's Easter!" Let's keep that town crier from Wolverhampton in his place. Let him loose once a year and we can cope with the supermarket's 'Muzak'. Actually, there is a green hill far away, on Cannock Chase, but don't tell Noddy, though his mate Big Ears will pick it up. Now, where were we. For us, of course, Easter begins on Palm Sunday when Jesus rides on a donkey and makes a triumphant entry into Jerusalem.

As Jesus rode into Jerusalem, many of His followers began to throw their cloaks on the road in front of Him, others cut branches off palm trees and laid them down in His path. Everyone began to sing and shout. They praised God and thanked Him for all the miracles Jesus had performed. This was too be the last week of Jesus's life; the Thursday of that week was to become Maundy Thursday, familiar to us as the day our Queen (this year, the King) gives out money to the poor! To us, of course, this day gives us one of the final acts that Jesus did before His death, He washed His own disciples feet. He had a meal then washed their feet. But, of course, on that night Jesus first introduced the Lord's Supper, what we today know as Holy Communion. They met in an upstairs room in secret, it was also Passover so the supper was significant. This was the last Passover meal Jesus would share with His friends. "This is My body, this is My blood" Jesus would say as He, the Lamb of God, prepared to die for the sins of the world. John's Gospel makes it quite clear that this last supper took place the evening before Passover, so Jesus died at the same time that the Passover lambs were killed.

After the meal Jesus, as He often did, went to the olive grove in the Garden of Gethsemane to pray to God. It was here, of course, that under the cover of darkness Judas Iscariot brings the soldiers to capture Him. Should His other disciples have protected Him? Did they sit back and let them take Jesus away? Why did they watch and let Jesus be taken away? Of course, they couldn't do anything. Sadly, their friend Jesus was to die on the cross. Surprisingly, one man who defended Jesus was the Governor of Judea, one Pontius Pilate. He simply said "I find no fault in this man". He could find no evidence that Jesus had committed any crime. He was happy to give Him a warning and let Him go. At the same time, another prisoner, one Barabbas, was being held. As one prisoner was allowed to be set free during the Passover Pilate asked the crowd who it should be. "Barabbas" the crowd shouted. Jesus's death was sealed. Of course, like every official today, Pontius Pilate dodged it and passed Jesus over to Herod. Let's face it, he was after Him from the day He was born – he finally got Him. So Jesus died and of course we remember Him at Easter. Chocolate eggs and hot cross buns, what a memory.

Actually, if you want to commemorate that last week of Jesus's life look to Music. Ok, the Gospels have it all but Andrew Lloyd-Webber and Tim Rice made it simple. "Jesus Christ, Superstar" tells it all, those last seven days of Jesus's life. The longest running musical in the West End until Les Misérables said it all. Had it all. 'I don't know how to love Him' Mary's song should have made it into 'Singing the Faith', forget Noddy Holder and Slade. Children get it right. Born at Christmas, they get presents, died 3 months later, they get eggs. What a simple thought!

## Fancy these Working Hours?

Buried deep in rubble of an old building in Lichfield was this gem, aimed at clerical staff who had just gained from the new labour Laws of 1852.

1. *This firm has reduced the hours of work. You will now have to be present from 7.00am to 6.00pm.*
2. *Daily prayers will be held each morning in the main office. All clerical staff must be present.*
3. *Clothing must be of a sober nature. Staff will not disport themselves in raiment of bright colours.*



4. *Overshoes and top coats may not be worn in the office, but neck scarves and headwear may be worn in inclement weather.*
5. *A stove is provided for the benefit of clerical staff. Coal and wood must be kept in the locker. It is recommended that each member of the clerical staff bring four pounds of coal each day during cold weather.*
6. *No member of the clerical staff may leave the room without permission from Mr. Rogers. Calls of nature are permitted and clerical staff may use the garden below the second gate. This area must be kept in good order.*
7. *No talking is allowed during business hours.*
8. *The craving of tobacco, wines or spirits is a human weakness and as such is forbidden to all members of clerical staff.*
9. *Now that the hours of business have been drastically reduced, the partaking of food is allowed between 11.30 and 12 noon, but work will not on any account cease.*
10. *Members of clerical staff will provide their own pens.*
11. *Mr Rogers will nominate a senior clerk to be responsible for the cleanliness of the offices. All boys and juniors will report to him 40 minutes before prayers and will remain after closing for similar work.*

*The owners recognise the generosity of the new labour laws but will expect a great rise in the output of work to compensate for these near-utopian conditions.*

Well at least the management gave them time for prayers.

*Mike*

(Mike Knott, Stourport Wesley)

### **Mike's Smile Lines**

A man takes his girlfriend out. Driving along they come to traffic lights on red, he drives straight over. "You shouldn't have done that" she said. "It's alright, our kid always does it" was the reply. They drive on, another set of traffic lights on red, he drives straight over. "O hell" she says, "you shouldn't go across on red". "No problem" he says. "Our kid always does it". They drive on. Another set of traffic lights on red and he drives straight over. "Let me out" she says. "No problem", he says. "Our kid always goes over on red". They drive on and come to a set of traffic lights on green. He stops. "What's up" she said, "they were on green, you could have gone straight over. "No chance" he said, "Our kid might have been coming the other way"

\*\*

Joining a new Parish, the Vicar visits the Sunday school. He asks one little girl what her name is "Jenny" she says. The Vicar then explains that her proper name would be Jennifer, Jenny was just an abbreviation. Turning to another girl he asked what her name was. Pondering, the girl says "Well after what you said to Jenny, it must be Lucyfer"

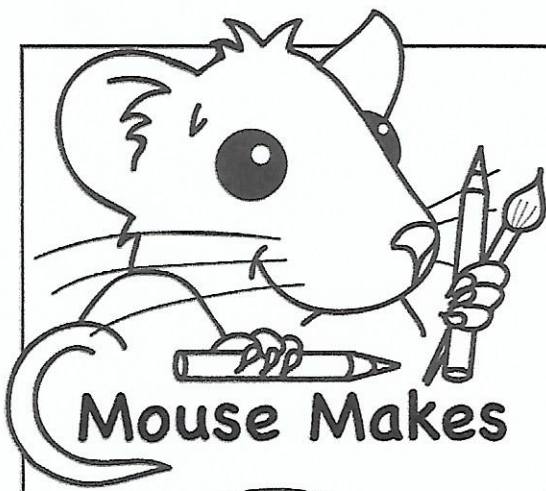
\*\*

He's the richest man in the world but he's greedy. He decides that when he dies no one is going to have his money. So he prays and pleads with God to let him take one bag with him when he goes to Heaven. God agrees so he converts all his wealth into gold bars and packs them in a case. Eventually he dies and goes to heaven. At the pearly gates St. Peter stops him. "Before you come in" he says "I have to see what you've got in your case". St. Peter opens the case and sees the gold bars. "What?" says St. Peter in astonishment "You've brought paving stones"

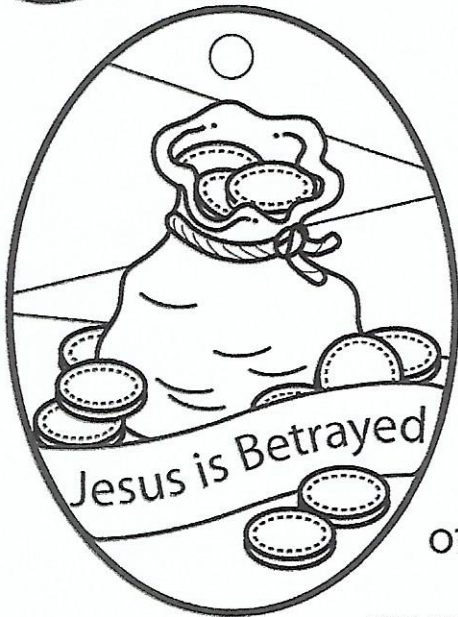
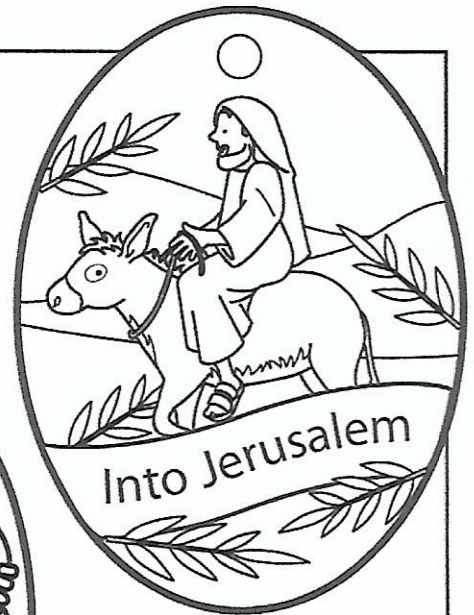
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A man was visiting his doctor and asked how he decided that a person should be put in an old age home. "Well" said the doctor "we fill a bath with water and offer the person a teaspoon, a tea cup and a bucket and ask them to empty the bath tub." "So" said the man "a normal person would use the bucket because it's the biggest?" "No" said the doctor "a normal person would just pull the plug out. Do you want a bed near the window?"



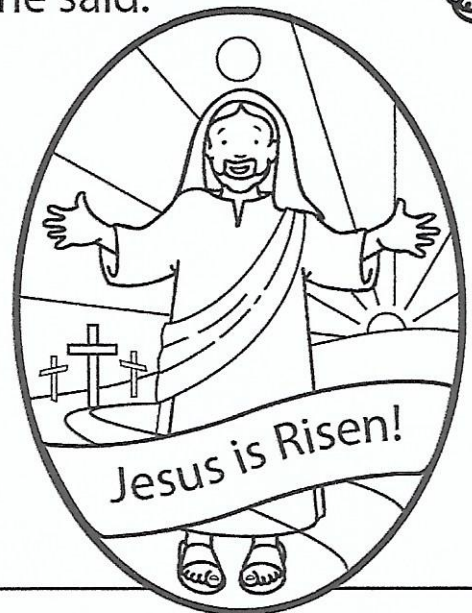
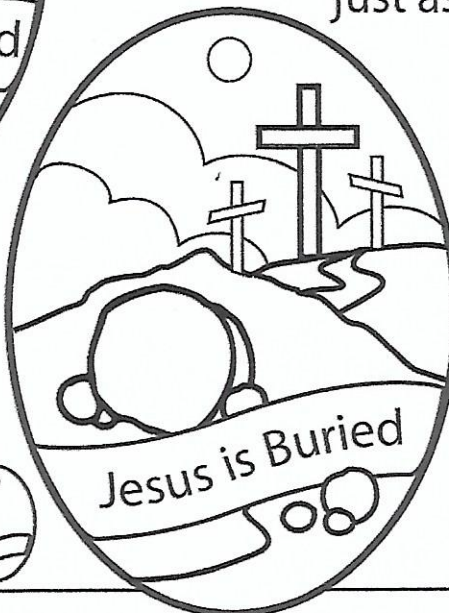
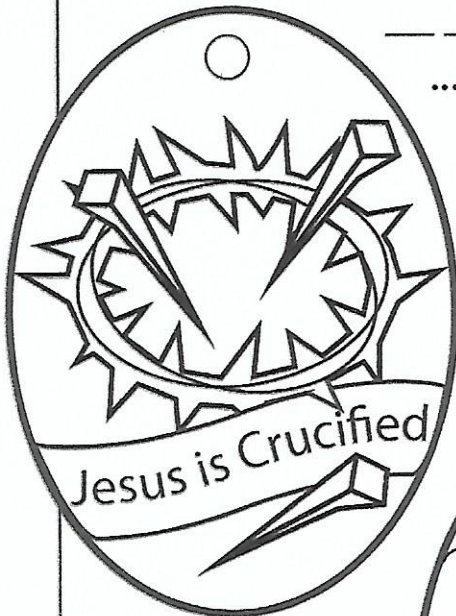
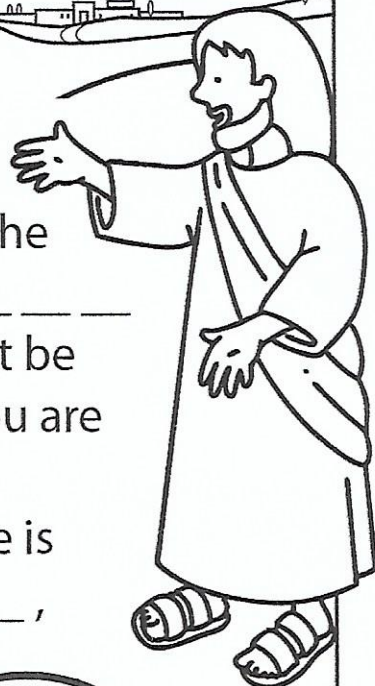


**HE IS RISEN!**  
Read the story of  
The Resurrection in  
*Matthew 28:1-20*



How many other  
words can you  
make from  
**RESURRECTION**

An \_\_\_\_\_  
of the Lord came down from  
\_\_\_\_\_ and going to the  
\_\_\_\_\_ rolled back the \_\_\_\_\_  
... the \_\_\_\_\_ said, "Do not be  
\_\_\_\_\_, for I know you are  
looking for Jesus who was  
\_\_\_\_\_, He is  
not here; he has \_\_\_\_\_,  
just as he said."



Glue this page onto  
card. Cut out the  
ovals then **colour** in.  
Punch a hole at the  
top and **hang** up  
for Easter



# Bible Bite

A short story from the Bible

It can be read in the Bible in  
Mt 21:1-11, Mk 11:1-11, Lk 19:28-38, Jn 12:12-19

Thousands of people went to Jerusalem to  
celebrate the Passover feast each year.  
This year Jesus and his friends went too.

Two miles outside Jerusalem  
Jesus said to two of his friends



Go into that village and bring  
back the donkey you find there.

If anyone asks, say  
'The Lord needs it.'



So off they went...

and they found it  
as Jesus had said



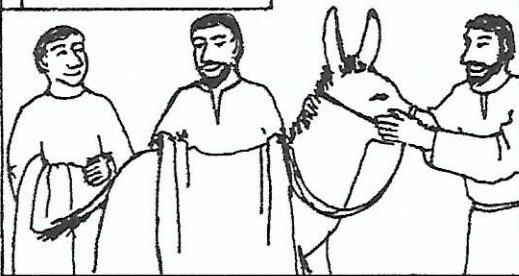
Why are you  
taking our donkey?

The Lord needs it.



That's alright then

They brought it back to  
Jesus, and made a saddle  
from a cloak.



They spread more cloaks  
on the road to make it a  
way fit for a king.



Others cut palm branches and  
waved them.

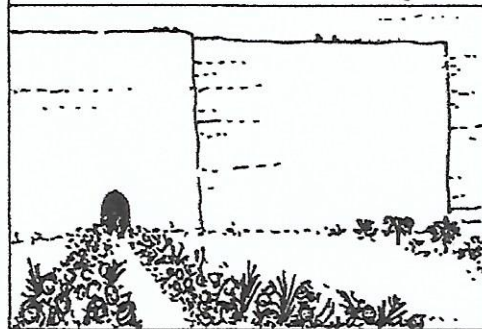


They shouted the traditional  
welcome to the Passover feast

God bless the one  
who comes in the  
name of the Lord!



As they got closer to  
Jerusalem the crowd grew.



Everyone shouted to  
welcome Jesus as king



The teachers of the  
laws were angry



Teacher, you should stop  
them calling you 'king'

But Jesus replied



What they say is so  
true that even if I made them  
stop, the stones would shout!



## **2<sup>nd</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup> April – An overview of Passion Week**

The events of Easter took place over a week, traditionally called Passion Week. It began on Palm Sunday. After all His teaching and healing, Jesus had built a following.

On the Sunday before He was to die, Jesus and His followers arrived at Jerusalem. The city was crowded. Jewish people were arriving to celebrate Passover. This commemorates how they had escaped from slavery in Egypt nearly 1,500 years earlier.

Jesus rode into the city on a young donkey. He was greeted like a conquering hero. Cheering crowds waved palm branches in tribute. He was hailed as the Messiah who had come to re-establish a Jewish kingdom.

The next day they returned to Jerusalem. Jesus went to the temple, the epicentre of the Jewish faith, and confronted money-changers and merchants who were ripping off the people. He overturned their tables and accused them of being thieves. The religious authorities were alarmed and feared how He was stirring up the crowds.

On the Tuesday, they challenged Jesus, questioning His authority. He answered by challenging and condemning their hypocrisy. Later that day Jesus spoke to His disciples about future times. He warned them about fake religious leaders; the coming destruction of Jerusalem; wars, earthquakes and famines; and how His followers would face persecution.

By midweek the Jewish religious leaders and elders were so angry with Jesus that they began plotting to arrest and kill Him. One of Jesus' disciples, Judas, went to the chief priests and agreed to betray Him to them.

Jesus and the 12 disciples gathered on the Thursday evening to celebrate the Passover meal. This is known as the Last Supper. During the evening, Jesus initiated a ritual still marked by Christians – Holy Communion – which commemorates His death. Jesus broke bread and shared it and a cup of wine with His disciples.

Judas then left to meet the other plotters. Jesus continued to teach the others and then went outside into an olive grove to pray. He even prayed for all future believers. He agonised over what was to come but chose the way of obedience. The Bible book, Luke, records Him praying, *'Father if you are willing, take this cup from me; yet not my will but yours be done'*. Minutes later Judas arrived with soldiers and the chief priests and Jesus was arrested.

*Parish Pump 2023*

## **Good Friday, Jesus and the thieves on the Cross**

Luke's account of the crucifixion (Luke 23:32-43) emphasises the mocking of the crowd, *'If you are the king of the Jews, save yourself'* (35,37,39). In their view a Messiah does not hang on a cross and suffer. In considering the two men who were crucified with Jesus, we are also confronted with the issue of how Jesus secures salvation for us.

The words of one of those crucified with Jesus reflected the crowd's taunts: *'Aren't you the Christ? Save yourself and us.'* He highlights the question of Jesus' identity: how can He save others, when He cannot save Himself from death? He failed to see that the cross itself was the means of salvation. So – what kind of Messiah was Jesus?



The other criminal's response in his last moments is a moving expression of faith. When challenging the other man, he spoke of the utter injustice of the crucifixion: *'this man has done nothing wrong.'* He perceived the truth that Jesus was indeed the Messiah. In a wonderful picture of

grace, *'remember me when You come into Your kingdom'*, the second thief confessed his guilt and secured Jesus' forgiveness and mercy.

In reply, Jesus promised the man life from the moment of death; *'Today you will be with Me in paradise.'* Jesus used the picture of a *walled garden* to help the man understand His promise of protection and security in God's love and acceptance eternally.

Each one of us has to choose how we react to Jesus on the cross. Do we want Him to 'remember' us when He comes into His kingdom, or not? If you were to die tonight, how confident would you be of going to be with Jesus? *'For Christ died for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God'* (1 Peter 3:18).

Parish Pump 2023

### **EASTER, the most joyful day of the year**

Easter is the most joyful day of the year for Christians. Christ has died for our sins. We are forgiven. Christ has risen! We are redeemed! We can look forward to an eternity in His joy! Hallelujah!

The Good News of Jesus Christ is a message so simple that you can explain it to someone in a few minutes. It is so profound that for the rest of their lives they will still be 'growing' in their Christian walk with God.

Why does the date move around so much? Because the date of Passover moves around, and according to the biblical account, Easter is tied to the Passover. Passover celebrates the Israelites' exodus from Egypt, and it lasts for seven days, from the middle of the Hebrew month of Nisan, which equates to late March or early April.

Sir Isaac Newton was one of the first to use the Hebrew lunar calendar to come up with firm dates for the first Good Friday: Friday 7<sup>th</sup> April 30 AD or Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> April, 33 AD with Easter Day falling two days later. Modern scholars continue to think these two Fridays to be the most likely.

Most people will tell you that Easter falls on the first Sunday after the first full moon after the Spring Equinox, which is broadly true. But the precise calculations are complicated and involve something called an 'ecclesiastical full moon', which is not the same as the moon in the sky. The earliest possible date for Easter in the West is 22<sup>nd</sup> March, which last fell in 1818. The latest is 25<sup>th</sup> April, which last happened in 1943.

Why the name, 'Easter'? In almost every European language, the festival's name comes from 'Pesach', the Hebrew word for Passover. The Germanic word 'Easter', however, seems to come from *Eostre*, a Saxon fertility goddess mentioned by the Venerable Bede. He thought that the Saxons worshipped her in 'Eostur month,' but may have confused her with the classical dawn goddesses like *Eos* and *Aurora*, whose names mean 'shining in the east'. So, Easter might have meant simply 'beginning month' – a good time for starting up again after a long winter.

Finally, why Easter eggs? On one hand, they are an ancient symbol of birth in most European cultures. On the other hand, hens start laying regularly again each Spring. Since eggs were forbidden during Lent, it's easy to see how decorating and eating them became a practical way to celebrate Easter.

Parish Pump 2023



### **Have a drink. Have two drinks!**

Drinking is really good for you. Drinking water, that is. Recent research has found that people who drink a good amount of water are less likely to develop chronic conditions, or to show signs of advanced ageing.

The key seems to be in your serum sodium levels, which go up when your fluid intake goes down. Adults with high serum sodium levels are more likely to develop chronic illness, and also more likely to die younger.

“The results suggest that proper hydration may slow down ageing and prolong a disease-free life,” said one scientist.

The study was published in a recent issue of the eBioMedicine journal. According to NHS England, people should have six to eight drinks a day, which can include water, lower-fat milks, tea and coffee.

*Parish Pump 2023*

### **Hedgehogs need your help this Spring**

During the winter when hedgehogs hibernate, their heart rate drops from around 190 beats per minute to just about 20. They breathe only once every few minutes. So, to rouse themselves from that depth of torpor and get back into normal life takes a huge surge of energy.

Which is where you can come in. Hedgehogs are hungry in the Spring. Very hungry. Most of them will have slept until mid-March, and so will now be awake – but starving.

So why not put out some shallow dishes of meaty cat or dog food or cat biscuits and water? You can even buy or make special hedgehog feeders.

Hedgehogs have always been popular, but they are now sadly classed as ‘vulnerable to extinction’. Numbers have been plummeting, and now there are less than one million left in the UK. “With their coat of prickles and inquisitive nose, alongside a penchant for snuffling around our back gardens snaffling up slugs and earthworms, hedgehogs are a childhood memory of delight,” said one scientist. “Sadly, hedgehogs might be banished to memories alone and lost as a source of wonder for our children and grandchildren.”

*Parish Pump 2023*

### **All in the month of APRIL**

It was:

150 years ago, on 4<sup>th</sup> April 1873 that the Kennel Club was founded in London. It oversees dog shows and dog agility competitions and operates Britain’s national register of pedigree dogs. The Kennel Club licenses dog shows throughout the UK, but the only dog show that it actually runs is Crufts. The Kennel Club recognises 221 breeds, of which the Labrador Retriever is probably most popular.

100 years ago, on 15<sup>th</sup> April 1923 that insulin became generally available for the treatment of diabetes.

Also 100 years ago, on 26<sup>th</sup> April 1923 that Prince Albert, Duke of York (later King George VI) married Lady Elizabeth Bowes-Lyon (later Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother) at Westminster Abbey in London.



75 years ago, on 30<sup>th</sup> April 1948 that the Land Rover, a British all-terrain vehicle, was officially launched at the Amsterdam Motor Show. According to Yougov.co.uk, nowadays 95% of us have heard of them, and 58% of us admire them.

70 years ago, on 16<sup>th</sup> April 1953 that Queen Elizabeth II launched the Royal Yacht Britannia. It was decommissioned in 1997. The Royal Family no longer owns a royal yacht.

60 years ago, on 16<sup>th</sup> April 1963 that American civil rights leader Martin Luther King Jnr. wrote his famous 'Letter from Birmingham Jail' while imprisoned in Alabama. He stated that the Black community was forced to protest when the white power structure left them no choice.

50 years ago, on 4<sup>th</sup> April 1973 that the World Trade Centre in New York City was officially opened. It was destroyed in the 9/11 terrorist attacks in 2001.

Also 50 years ago, on 8<sup>th</sup> April 1973 that Pablo Picasso, Spanish artist died. Co-founder of the Cubism movement, he is considered one of the greatest artists of the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

40 years ago, on 15<sup>th</sup> April 1983 that Corrie ten Boom, a Dutch writer and Holocaust survivor, died. She wrote about her experiences in Christian books that became best-sellers.

30 years ago, on 29<sup>th</sup> April 1993 that Queen Elizabeth II announced that Buckingham Palace would open to the public for the first time, to raise funds to repair fire damage at Windsor Castle.

Also 30 years ago, on 30<sup>th</sup> April 1993 that CERN, the creators of the World Wide Web, announced that it could be used for free by anyone. That decision has shaped the modern world as we know it.

25 years ago, on 10<sup>th</sup> April 1998 that the Good Friday Agreement was signed in Northern Ireland.

20 years ago, on 14<sup>th</sup> April 2003 that the Human Genome Project was successfully completed, with over 99% of the human genome sequenced and mapped, including all of the genes.

*Parish Pump 2023*

### **Happy Birthday, Cadbury Crème Egg**

Cadbury Crème Eggs celebrate their 60<sup>th</sup> birthday this Spring. They have a lot to celebrate: the Creme Egg is the best-selling confectionery item between New Year's Day and Easter in the UK, with annual sales of more than 200 million eggs, worth about £55 million.

Cadbury Crème Eggs were first created by the British chocolatier Fry's in 1963, before being renamed by Cadbury in 1971.

*Parish Pump 2023*

### **Remembering Corrie ten Boom**

Corrie's family were Calvinist Christians in the Dutch Reformed Church, and served their neighbourhood by offering shelter, food and money to the needy. They believed the Jews were precious to God and that all people were created equal. During the Second World War, she – and the rest of her family – helped many Jews and others to escape from the Nazis at great risk to themselves. She later received the rare accolade from Israel of being named Righteous Among the Nations.

The Dutch Resistance helped them to build a secret room in their house behind Corrie's bedroom, which became known as The Hiding Place – later the title of her most famous book. The room held six people, had its own ventilation and an alert buzzer, and was astonishingly successful. It is



estimated that about 800 Jews in all were saved through Corrie's efforts, which included obtaining at least 100 false ration cards.

Eventually an informer gave them away, and the family were arrested in February 1944 – though not the six people in the Hiding Place at the time. After months in prison, Corrie and her sister Betsie were sent to Ravensbrück concentration camp in September 1944, where they continued to worship and share the message of forgiveness, hope, love, and salvation. Betsie died in the December, but Corrie was released later that same month, apparently because of a 'clerical error'. A week later all the women in her age group were sent to the gas chambers.

After she was set free, Corrie travelled the world for 33 years, from 1944 to 1977, speaking in 64 countries. She suffered three severe strokes from August 1978 and died on her 91<sup>st</sup> birthday.

*Parish Pump 2023*

### **Parish Pump Smile Lines**

It was Palm Sunday, but because of a sore throat, five-year-old Bobby was kept home from church with his grannie. When the family returned home, they were carrying several palm fronds and Bobby asked them what they were for. "People held them over Jesus' head as He walked by," his father explained.

Bobby was aghast. "I don't believe it! The one Sunday I don't go, and He shows up!"

\*\*

### **Violets?**

When my husband was six years old, he thought the creed included the line: "He suffered under a bunch of violets." It took him years before he realised that he should have been saying: "under Pontius Pilate."

\*\*

A devout cowboy lost his Bible while he was mending fences out on the range. Three weeks later a cow walked up to him, carrying the Bible in its mouth. The cowboy couldn't believe his eyes. He took the book out of the cow's mouth and exclaimed, "It's a miracle!"

"Well, hardly that," said the cow. "Your name was written inside the cover."

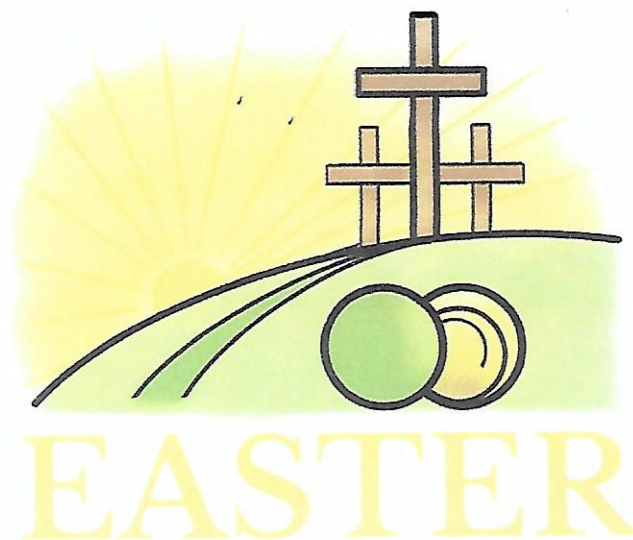
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### **Miscellaneous observations on daily life:**

You can learn many things from children. How much patience you have, for instance.

If you think nobody cares whether you're alive or dead, try missing a couple of mortgage payments.

The biggest lie I tell myself is "I don't need to write that down, I'll remember it."





## Answers to the Transport Quiz

1. 6th May, 1994
2. Concorde
3. Ernest Marples
4. Dr Richard Beeching
5. Snow Hill, Moor Street, New Street
6. Isambard Kingdom Brunel
7. 1912
8. Members of the Royal family
9. A hard road surface. Usually referred to as tarmac
10. Water
11. Distance between the rails on a standard gauge railway
12. Henry Ford's motor company
13. York
14. A bicycle
15. Reginald Mitchell
16. Penzance
17. It became entrapped in ice, crushed then sank
18. Trams
19. An airship.
20. Marie Celeste
21. Tom Hanks
22. To be the station master
23. A one, or two person sledge, on which you lie on back and travel feet first
24. In the Solent
25. Japan
26. The Panama Canal
27. The Forth Bridge
28. On the canals of Venice
29. M6 - 373.7 km or 232.2 miles
30. Wilbur and Orville Wright
31. Rev Wilbert Awdry

Sudoku solution:

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 8 | 7 | 4 | 6 | 9 | 5 | 3 | 2 | 1 |
| 1 | 9 | 6 | 2 | 4 | 3 | 8 | 7 | 5 |
| 2 | 3 | 5 | 8 | 7 | 1 | 4 | 6 | 9 |
| 4 | 5 | 8 | 1 | 6 | 2 | 9 | 3 | 7 |
| 7 | 6 | 1 | 9 | 3 | 8 | 2 | 5 | 4 |
| 3 | 2 | 9 | 7 | 5 | 4 | 6 | 1 | 8 |
| 9 | 1 | 3 | 5 | 8 | 6 | 7 | 4 | 2 |
| 5 | 4 | 7 | 3 | 2 | 9 | 1 | 8 | 6 |
| 6 | 8 | 2 | 4 | 1 | 7 | 5 | 9 | 3 |

### Crossword answers:

**ACROSS:** 1, Cosmic. 4, Thomas. 8, In his. 9, Delaiah. 10, Falwell. 11, Water. 12, Recovered. 17, Sidon. 19, Radiant. 21, Centaur. 22, Broil. 23, Eleven. 24, Prison.

**DOWN:** 1, Cliffs. 2, Scholar. 3, Issue. 5, Holy war. 6, Moist. 7, Sphere. 9, Deliverer. 13, Candace. 14, Deacons. 15, Psyche. 16, Stolen. 18, Dance. 20, Debar.



# TRINITY LUNCHEON CLUB

Trinity Methodist Church, Kidderminster

Every Wednesday at 12.15

Would you like a mid-week meal cooked for you with pleasant friendly company round the table?

Then why not come to our **Luncheon Club** – you don't have to be a church member or on your own, couples are welcome.

Enjoy a delicious main course and pudding with tea or coffee.

**Only £3.00**

## Our main courses include:

**Meat Loaf**   **Salmon Flan**   **Chicken Casserole**

**Corned Beef Flan**   **Sausages**

**Ham and Pineapple**   **Cheese and Bacon Flan**

and our puddings (naughty but very nice):

**Cheesecake**   **Bakewell Tart**   **Sponge Pudding**

**Fruit Crumble**   **Sticky Toffee**

**Passion Pudding**   **Bread & Butter Pudding**

For more information or to book a place please contact  
Mrs. Jill Green via 07580009755 (between 9am and 5pm)

**THURSDAY**

*Slimming*  
WORLD

**SLIMMING WORLD GROUPS**

**FOLEY PARK METHODIST CHURCH**

**OFF BRINTONS CLOSE**

**KIDDERMINSTER**

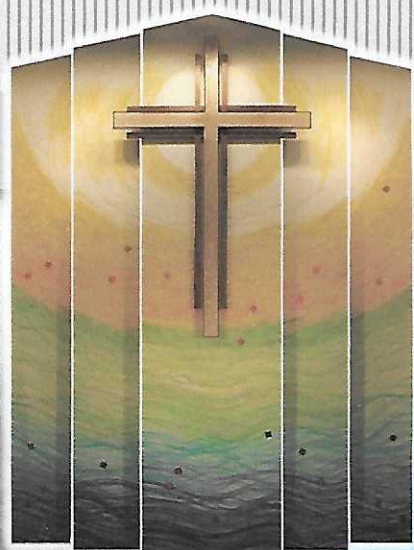
**9.30AM OR 11AM**

**CALL SANDRA**

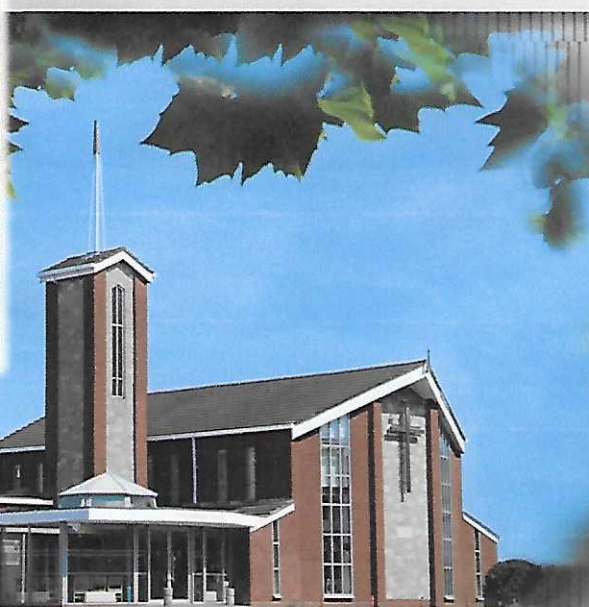
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♦ Trinity Methodist Church ♦



### **Sunday Services**

- **Morning Worship at 10.30am**
- **Evening Worship at 6.30pm**

**Mid-Week Lunchtime Service at Trinity  
Every Thursday 12.30pm – 1.00pm**

### **Trinity Toddlers Every Tuesday**

**9.45am – 11.15am**

Contact:

**Mrs Stella Batson - 01562 863503**

**Rev'd. Nick Collison - 01562 823300**

### **Trinity Luncheon Club Every Wednesday at 12.15pm**

Co-ordinator:

**Mrs. Jill Green**

Trinity Methodist Church, Churchfields, Kidderminster, DY10 2 JL

Telephone: 07580 009755 (Mon-Fri 9am -5pm)

[www.trinitymethodistkidderminster.org.uk](http://www.trinitymethodistkidderminster.org.uk)

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