



The
United
Reformed
Church

Halifax Pastorate Magazine

Heath New Hope New Providence
Luddenden Foot



March/April 2020

Our vision is to know, love, live and
share Jesus, for a better world.

Letter from the New Manse

Dear Friends,

I'm writing this letter in early February; it's cold and damp outside and the central heating is on. Nevertheless, the daylight hours are lengthening; clumps of snowdrops are in flower; daffodils and other Spring bulbs have pushed their way into the daylight and are growing, and new shoots are appearing on shrubs and rose bushes. These are signs that Spring is just around the corner. By the time you're reading this the daffodil buds may be opening, and soon there should be lambs in the fields, blossom on the trees and young birds hatching and fledging. Winter, nature's resting period, is coming to an end and there's evidence of the renewing and re-creating work of God.

The seasons are also changing in the church year. As March begins we're in waiting time of Lent, as Ash Wednesday falls on 26th February this year. This is the season for thinking about Jesus' journey to Jerusalem and the cross and his disciples' part in the story. As we do this we may also think about our own discipleship. It's a good time to reflect on our faith journey and to nurture our relationship with God, which we might do through personal Bible study and prayer or by taking part in a Lent course.

In just a few weeks it will be Good Friday and we'll share the grief of the first disciples who watched Jesus die. As Jesus hung on the cross, and as he was placed in a tomb, the disciples must have thought it was all over and

Letter from the New Manse

perhaps they were wondering why God was allowing it to happen.

On Easter Day we'll remember the empty tomb. It was no doubt with great awe and wonder, and perhaps with many questions, that the disciples discovered that the tomb was empty. Then there were those words which would turn their lives upside down: "He has risen!" Perhaps at first it all seemed too good to be true: just too much to hope for and believe. However, disbelief and questions were soon to be set aside, as Jesus appeared to them later that day and in subsequent days. There was a growing realisation, and then certainty, that Jesus really was alive in a new and different way than before.

God not only worked on that Easter Day to raise Jesus from the dead, he also raised the disciples from despair and gave them new hope. New life came to them, and things would never be the same again. They went on to become people they would never have dreamt they could be.

God continues his re-creating work even today, offering new life to everyone and opening up fresh possibilities for those who trust him and let him work in their lives. May this Lent and Eastertide be a time when we let God break into our lives and do that for us.

Love,
Heather

HEATH

Pulpit list - Heath URC, Free School Lane. 10.30am

March

- 1 Mr Jim Walker
- 8 Rev Heather Pollard – followed by Church AGM
- 15 Rev John Jenkinson – Communion
- 22 Rev Heather Pollard – Mothering Sunday – Parade – Fair Trade Stall
- 29 – Group Service at Luddenden Foot – NO SERVICE

AT HEATH

April

- 5 Mr Martin Pollard
- 10 Good Friday at New Hope at 10.30am
- 12 Rev Heather Pollard – Easter Communion
- 19 Mrs Dawn Walker
- 26 Rev John Jenkinson

Activities in March/April

Sunday 8 March – Church AGM – after morning Worship
4.00pm – Messy Church

Thursday 12 March – 7.30pm – Thursday Club – Gillian Highley – My Trip to the Palace

Saturday 14 March - 9.00-12 noon – Task Day

Tuesday 17 March 10.30am – Community Coffee Morning

Wednesday 25 March – 7.30pm – Group AGM at New Hope

Saturday 4 April – 10.00am Spring Fair – Lunch from 12 noon £6

Thursday 9 April – Thursday Club – AGM - Games and Hot Cross Buns

Tuesday 21 April – 10.30am – Community Coffee Morning

Thursday 30 April – 10am – Elders' Meeting in the lounge

Lent Groups

Our Lent course this year is again shared with St Jude's, details as follows

HEATH

St Jude's and Holy Trinity will host 5 meetings starting on Sunday March 1st at 7.30 pm (refreshments at 7.15) Lee Hill will lead discussion on the film Les Miserables with extracts focussing on a different character each week.

Weekly Events

Regular Activities at Heath

Sunday

4.00pm Messy Church (monthly Sept-June)

Monday

9.15am Toddlers (Term time only)

2.00pm Sing for Fun Choir

5.30pm Beaver Scouts 6-8yrs

6.30pm Cub Scouts 8-10yrs

Tuesday

10.30am Community Coffee Club (3rd Tuesday in month)

Thursday

7.30pm Thursday Club- Social Group
(2nd Thurs in the Month Sept – June)

Friday

7.30pm Scouts 10-14yrs

7.30pm Explorer Scouts 14-18 yrs

Muriel Robinson

I'm sure you are all aware that we lost one of our elderly members recently, when Muriel Robinson passed away. She was 97. Many church members knew Muriel Robinson much longer than I did, but I'd like to share with you some of my key memories of Muriel.

When Janet and I started attending Heath in the late 80s, Muriel was one of the first members to befriend us, and she quickly became a very special friend. Muriel was of course

the main organ player at that time, with Ellis Hagger playing one week a month. Muriel learnt that I liked the 20th century tunes to 'At the Name Of Jesus' and 'O Jesus I Have Promised', and whenever these hymns were chosen, she would smile at me as she played those tunes. When we started a family, Muriel became our primary baby sitter, often playing Uno with Chris after the girls were in bed. I'm not sure who enjoyed it the most – Chris or Muriel. Later, when we started a Pilots company in 1996, Muriel was the first to volunteer to help us out. We quickly discovered just how good she was with the youngest Pilots. We particularly remember Muriel looking after the McGregor twins when they were 5 years old, and very shy. Muriel made sure they knew where to go and what to do so that they quickly grew in confidence. When Muriel was into her 80s, she decided to stand down from Pilots. But it was typical of Muriel that when a few years later we requested extra help from the church, Muriel quickly volunteered to come back, in spite of the fact she was now around 90! We declined her kind offer as Muriel had clearly already done more than her fair share. In recent years, I know Muriel very much enjoyed her Christmas Days, when she was welcomed to the home of Ann Boyd. And she very much appreciated visits from many Heath members, but those from her good friend Margaret Crowther particularly. Muriel always had a big smile for anyone who called on her, and she tried never to miss Sunday morning worship at Heath when she could help it. She was a very generous donator to the flower fund and regularly handed in an envelope for that purpose.

Muriel moved in to the Joseph Crossley's Almshouses at about the time I got to know her, and everyone there frequently commented on what a lovely lady she was. Muriel was one of the few people who played the harmo-

HEATH

nium there, and she took her turn on the piano rota for many years. She seldom missed chapel on a Thursday afternoon, and frequently attended coffee mornings. Muriel will be missed by many people, but I'm sure they will all give thanks that they got to know such a lovely lady who had such a positive impact on so many lives. - Alan Kendall

Deadline Auction in support of the Theodora Trust (Clown Doctors)

Saturday 14th March 2020 at Heath Church, Free School Lane, at 19.00. The auction starts at 19.30.

This will be a very enjoyable social evening which aims to raise funds for a charity which provides "giggle doctors" for children's wards in hospital. A deadline auction differs from normal auctions insofar as items are set out on tables and successive bids are written on a card placed by each item, each bid outdoing the last. When the bell rings, bidding stops and the last bidder gets the goods.

Please support us by letting us have items to auction e.g. unwanted Christmas presents(!), artwork, chocolates, ceramics, toys, books, antiques, wine or spirits, jigsaws, tools, glassware, etc.

Nice quality and condition please. We welcome pledges of goods or services, and there will be a live auction on the night.

The organisers have booked Heath URC but the event is open to all. Entry is by ticket (£10 each, includes supper and a welcome drink) from Anne or John Seager 01422 367091 or 07577 757265), who will also be your contact for donations for the auction. We would be pleased to collect and to see you there.

Please help us to help sick children. Thank you.

Pulpit Supply

March/April

Mar. 1st Mr. Peter Fleming

Mar. 8th Mrs. Juliet Foster

Mar. 15th Rev Heather Pollard

Mar. 22nd Mr. Andrew Mitchell

Mar. 29th Rev John Jenkinson

Apr. 5th Mrs. Juliet Foster

Apr. 10th Rev Heather pollard Good Friday Pastorate Svc.

Apr. 12th Mr. David Truswell

Apr. 19th Mr. Martin Pollard

Apr. 26th Alison Dobson

Our Church AGM is on Sunday, 15th March after the service.

March/April Diary

Mondays

NEW HOPE ART GROUP

From the beginning of March our Art Group will come under the umbrella of our own Church, not as High Five. We welcome anyone who would like to join us too, age no limit! £3 per meeting. Come and paint or draw and relax. We will still be meeting on a Monday 1.30-4.00.

Boys' Brigade 6-30 p.m. Anchors, Juniors and Seniors (contact 832607)

NEW HOPE

Tuesdays Walking Group meet bottom of Court Lane 9-30 a.m. contact 357739 if you intend to go.

Wednesdays Friendship Hour 2-15 p.m. (2nd & 4th Wednesdays) 11th March Will be 'Journeys' With Cynthia Feather 25th March Will be 'John Hartley Yorkshire dialect writer' With Rod Dimbleby.

On April 8th it will be Alan Jowett with a quiz and on April 22nd it will be Trevor Moody with 'Comedians 3'

Every Wednesday Ladies' Keep Fit 7-30 p.m.

Thursdays African Church Worship 5-30 p.m. to 7.30pm
KUMON Educational Classes for Children Wednesdays 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. and Sundays from 4 p.m.

Saturdays Maths Group 9-30 a.m. to 11 a.m.

These are all items that have been arranged by the West Halifax Churches Together of which we are a part and therefore we are welcome to join in any of these events.

LENT Course - this is to be held on Tuesday evenings, 7 p.m. for 7-30 p.m. at St. Columba's Community Hall. The subject is entitled 'Cross Shaped Jesus' and each session will be led by a member of the clergy.

Tuesday 3rd March led by Rev John Hellewell 'Folly of the Cross'

Tuesday 10th March led by Rev Caroline Greenwood 'Wisdom of the Cross'

Tuesday 17th March led by Rev Heather Pollard 'Scale of the Cross'

Tuesday 24th March led by Rev Michael McQuinn
'Victory of the Cross'

Tuesday 31st March led by Rev Terry Keen 'Way of the Cross'

Maundy Thursday –Service will be held at New Providence led by Juliet Foster at 7.30 pm. and we are invited to join with Christ Church for a service also at 7-30 p.m.

Good Friday there is pastorate service here at New Hope at 10.30am. There is also a service at 11 a.m. at Highgate.

Holy Saturday (11th April) Easter Singing at ASDA
1 p.m. to 2 p.m.

The Group AGM is on Wednesday, 25th March at 7-30 p.m. at Heath.

Sunday 29th March Pastorate Service at Luddenfoot at 10-45 a.m. led by Heather our own minister.

Wednesday 18th March "Mission and Care Meeting"
7-30 p.m. at New Hope

FEAR

Lets all be wound up in the flight or fight department. Fear is the strongest emotion we can experience. We either stay and fight the saber toothed tiger or try and outrun it. Our modern day tiger is the mass media deciding who or what to be fearful about. The mass media fights amongst itself, debunking the others fear mongering.

This is the perfect battle ground between climate change deniers and believers. The deniers are financed by big oil and believers are financed by the new green industries (solar panel, heat pump makers, electric car makers etc.) Notice again, we the PEOPLE are being split into two camps; believers and non-believers. It all depends what you fear most, loss of pension income and traditional jobs, or, rising sea levels, mass population movement away from famine, loss of life support rain forest cover. Older people think of Greta as an upstart, younger people believe her, but its older people who can't imagine life without holidays in far flung places, who fear riding trains and buses and can't be bothered to re-cycle.

The fossil fuel lobby is now pouring scorn on the new wave of thinking, they have christened it wokeness and thus created another split in the PEOPLE, wakes and non-wokes (look it up on Google)

Don't believe everything you hear or see, most of it is put in front of you to manipulate your opinions or purchasing choices. Digital influencers make thousands by

persuading PEOPLE that they are ugly and have nothing to fear if they look like “This” success is theirs. Rejection a thing of the past.

The writer’s fear is the gullibility of the PEOPLE being manipulated by the most highly funded influences and being asked to make decisions accordingly.

Mike Riley



GREY HAIR OF EXPERIENCE IS THE SPLENDOR OF THE OLD.

Pulpit Supply

March

1st... Mrs. Juliet Foster

8th ... Mr. Ken Lees-Wolfenden (Communion)

15th... Mrs. Sue Lees-Wolfenden(Parade)

22nd...Mr. Peter Oates

29th... Pastorate Service Luddenden Foot

April

5th... Mr. Jim Walker

9th... Mrs. Juliet Foster (Maundy Thursday)

12th... Mrs. Juliet Foster (Easter Communion)

19th... Rev. Heather Pollard (Parade)

26th... TBA

New Providence

Diary

March

Wednesday's – 1.00pm I'm Fine Depression Group

Friday's – 6.45pm Boy's Brigade / Girl's Association at the Carlton Centre

Monday 23rd – 7.30pm New Provi Circle

Wednesday 25th -7.30pm Group AGM at Heath

At the Carlton Centre

Sunday's -10.45am – Open Heavens

Tuesday's – 10.00am Debt Counselling

Monday's -7.30pm – Halifax Choral Society

Thursday's – 6.30pm – Halifax Young Singers

Friday's – 8.00pm – Organ Academy

April

Wednesday's – 1.00pm I'm Fine Depression Group

Friday's – 6.45pm Boy's Brigade / Girl's Association at the Carlton Centre

Thursday 9th – 7.30pm Group Maunday Service

Wednesday 15th – Elders Meeting

Sunday 19th – 12.45pm Church Meeting

Monday 27th – 7.30pm New Provi Circle

At the Carlton Centre

Sunday's -10.45am – Open Heavens

Tuesday's – 10.00am Debt Counselling

Monday's -7.30pm – Halifax Choral Society

Thursday's – 6.30pm – Halifax Young Singers

Friday's – 8.00pm – Organ Academy

The Boys' Brigade. Halifax Battalion. 4th Halifax Boys' Brigade and Girls Association

On a lovely Saturday afternoon in September The Boys' Brigade Halifax Battalion had a fun day in Manor Heath Park in order to recruit some new members, We hired a bouncy castle an inflatable obstacle course plus a couple of other different inflatables for our younger members and a laser quest game for older members. We also took lots of equipment with us so we could play games with the younger members. We had up to date flyers printed and got ourselves organised to provide drinks and snacks, essentially for the children but also for any parent who might be there.

We told our boys and girls already in The Boys' Brigade about the event and it was advertised on social media. We were amazed at the positive response we got from social media.

We had about 500 youngsters, both boys and girls, at the event and needless to say they all had a great time. Was it a success ? Well time will tell but we certainly hope so.

**THIS WAS ALL PAID FOR BY A DONATION FROM
NEW PROVIDENCE UNITED REFORMED CHURCH
OVENDEN HALIFAX USING PART OF MONIES RE-
CEIVED FROM YORKSHIRE PROVINCE TO USE
WITHIN THE COMMUNITY.**

**SO THANK YOU SO MUCH TO ALL THOSE WHO
MADE THIS POSSIBLE.**



LUDDENDEN FOOT

Pulpit supply

1st March – Rev H Pollard – Communion (followed by AGM)

8th March – Rev P Taylor

15th March – Mr M Pollard

22nd March – Mrs S Ng

29th March – Pastorate service at Luddenden Foot URC Church

5th April – Rev H Pollard

12th April – TBA

19th April – Mr R Booth

26th April – TBA

All the above services are at 10.45 am followed by refreshments

Luncheon Club

6th March

3rd April

17th April

Lunch is normally run on the 1st and 3rd Friday of each month at the Community Centre from noon to 2.00 pm.

Cost £5.00 per person for a 2 course meal plus

tea/coffee. There is no lunch on 20th March as I will be on holiday. Everyone is welcome at come along to the luncheon club.

2020: a pivotal year for addressing the climate crisis

The year ahead will be a crucial one for climate action in the UK, with the COP26 climate conference coming to Glasgow in November 2020.

The Guardian Jan 2020: The summer heatwaves of 2019 resulted in almost 900 extra deaths, according to statistical analysis from Public Health England.

Over the past four years more than 3,400 people have died early during periods of extreme temperature in England. Global heating is increasing the frequency of heatwaves and a cross-party committee of MPs warned in July that the UK was “woefully unprepared” for this impact of the climate emergency.

All regions of England were affected except the south west, and almost all the premature deaths were among people aged 65 or over. The frail elderly with heart or kidney problems are most at risk in a heatwave and dehydration can also lead to dizziness and falls.

The climate crisis made 2019 a year of record temperatures in the UK, according to the Met Office. The only region that recorded a statistically significant number of deaths in those under 65 was London, with 41 early deaths reported during the August heatwave

The report from the House of Commons environmental audit committee said hospitals and care homes in particular must be prepared for heatwaves, given that sick and elderly people are most vulnerable. But they say currently the NHS is only required to prepare plans for severe cold weather.

The average British person will have emitted more carbon dioxide in the first two weeks of this year than a citizen of

any one of seven African nations does in an entire year. This is the key finding of an Oxfam project, which discovered that someone in the UK will take just five days to emit the same carbon as someone in Rwanda does in a year and 12 days into 2020 the average Briton's emissions will have overtaken the annual per capita emissions of a further six African countries: Madagascar, Malawi, Ethiopia, Uganda, Guinea and Burkina Faso. The global average emission per person per year is 4.7 tonnes. In Britain the figure is 8.3 tonnes.

Danny Sriskandarajah, the chief executive of Oxfam GB, described the scale of global inequality revealed by the study as staggering. "It's a shock to realise that in just a few days our high-carbon lifestyles here in the UK produce the same emissions as the annual footprint of people in some poor countries. However, the encouraging thing is the willingness of the British public to take action."

A prayer to read, to pray and to really think about the implications of.

Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with us.

Let there be love on earth, and let it begin in our hearts.

Let there be miracles on earth, and let them begin with our faith.

Let there be a future for humankind, and may it begin with our actions now.

(Article and prayer taken from a communication from Alex Jowitt, Green Apostle to Yorkshire Synod of the URC)



Creating a climate of change.

<https://livinglent.org/>

Living Lent is about recognising that changing our climate is not just an activity, but a lifestyle.

You are invited to become part of a community who will respond to the call to climate action by making significant personal commitments to changing our lifestyles for the climate.

As the Living Lent community, we will share in this together, encouraging and challenging one another as we journey through Lent.

You can find our daily resources over on the blog, using the menu at the top of the page.

What could I do? As members of the Living Lent community, we will each make a commitment to changing our lifestyle for the climate during Lent.

You are invited to choose something that will stretch you.

What do you rely on most? What would be something that would change your daily habits?

As we do so, we will become part of a community who will be making these commitments alongside each other.

Through the Living Lent community, we will share in reflections, devotional, practice and creative resources.

Join us, by choosing one of these six commitments:

There isn't space in the magazine to give the full information of each of these.

If you have a computer or tablet, your church secretary can let you have an electronic copy of this information, so that you can easily follow up the links. If you don't have a

computer and would like more information, then church secretaries should be able to print selected information for you.

Single Use Plastics Could you give up single use plastics for Lent? <https://livinglent.org/what-could-i-do/single-use-plastics/>

Meat Could you go meat-free for Lent?

<https://livinglent.org/what-could-i-do/meat/>

Alternative Transport Could you commit to finding alternative modes of transport this Lent?

<https://livinglent.org/what-could-i-do/transport/>

Energy Use Could you reduce your electricity use by 10% during Lent?

<https://livinglent.org/what-could-i-do/energy-use/>

Local Living Could you commit to living locally this Lent?

<https://livinglent.org/what-could-i-do/local-living/>

Buy Nothing New Could you buy nothing new for the whole of Lent?

<https://livinglent.org/what-could-i-do/nothing-new/>



After witnessing Jesus turn water into wine, the amazing Larry attempted to add this to his act

Saint David's Day Sunday March 1st

St David plays a very important role in Welsh culture but little is known about his life. It is believed that he lived to be 100 years old and that he died in 589, but the first texts on his life only appeared around five hundred years after his death. This means that it is difficult to tell which aspects of the St David's story are true and which are legend. He was supposed to have been very gentle and physically strong and tall despite eating a frugal diet.

St David travelled widely throughout Wales, Cornwall in the south-west of England, Brittany in France and possibly to Ireland and Jerusalem. He founded several churches and a monastery in Wales and eventually became an archbishop. St David was canonized in 1120 and March 1 was included in the church calendar as St David's Day. People started making pilgrimages to St David's monastery after he was canonized. A cathedral still stands on its original site.

Saint Patrick's Day Tuesday March 17th

St. Patrick was born in Britain as Maewyn Succat. At age 16 (around A.D. 400), he was kidnapped from his home on the west coast and carried off to Ireland to become a slave who worked as a shepherd. After six years, he escaped; upon returning home, he received his call (in a dream) to preach the Gospel. He spent the next 15 or so years in a monastery, preparing for his missionary work. When he became a priest, his name was changed to Patricius, and eventually, Patrick. Although some Christians lived in Ireland at the time, it was Patrick who spread Christianity throughout the land and brought an organized church into existence.

Mothering Sunday March 22nd

The date of Mothering Sunday always changes since it is relative to other holidays on the calendar of the United Kingdom. Mothering Sunday is always held on the 4th Sunday of the Lent season.

This corresponds with Mothering Sunday being three weeks before Easter Sunday.

This places the date of Mothering Sunday in the UK around the middle of March or so.

Celebrations in the United Kingdom

Many families in the UK celebrate the day with traditional parties and events. One of these includes the baking and service of special cakes given to mothers. Children often wake up early on the morning of Mothering Sunday in order to have enough time to prepare for the baking and preparation of the cake in order to make it as fresh as possible.

While some families really enjoy keeping the celebration classic like this, others have modernised it to the point of it being similar to some holidays on the UK calendar. This means that children may be able to take their mothers out to dinner or lunch as part of the celebrations. In addition, shopping together has become a fun activity for many mothers to do with their children.

The idea of summer time or daylight saving time was mentioned in 1784 by Benjamin Franklin, the American inventor, scientist and statesman. However, it wasn't until 1907 that a serious proposal for daylight saving time was made in Britain by William Willett. Angry at the waste of daylight during summer mornings, he self-published a pamphlet called "The Waste of Daylight".

In 1916, a year after Willett's death, Germany became the first country to adopt daylight saving time. The UK did the same a few weeks later, along with many other nations involved in the First World War (1914-1918).

Within a few years of its introduction, many countries across the world adopted Daylight Saving Time. However, the benefits of it have been an ongoing debate since it was first introduced. Our clocks go forward one hour at 2am on **March 29th**

Palm Sunday April 5th commemorates the entrance of Jesus into Jerusalem (Matthew 21:1–9), when palm branches were placed in his path, before his arrest on Holy Thursday and his crucifixion on Good Friday. It thus marks the beginning of Holy Week, the final week of Lent.

Maundy Thursday April 9th is the Thursday before Easter. Christians remember it as the day of the Last Supper, when Jesus washed the feet of his disciples and established the ceremony known as the Eucharist.

The night of Maundy Thursday is the night on which Jesus was betrayed by Judas in the Garden of Gethsemane.

The word Maundy comes from the command (mandate) given by Christ at the Last Supper, that we should love one another.

In Roman Catholic churches the anthem *Mandatum novum do vobis* (a new commandment I give to you) would be sung on Maundy Thursday.

In many other countries this day is known as Holy Thursday.

Maundy Thursday ceremonies

In Britain, the sovereign takes part in the Ceremony of the Royal Maundy.

This ceremony, held at a great cathedral, involves the distribution of Maundy money to deserving senior citizens (one man and one woman for each year of the sovereign's age), usually chosen for having done service to their community.

They receive ceremonial red and white purses which contain coins made especially for the occasion. The white purse contains one coin for each year of the monarch's reign.

The red purse contains money in place of other gifts that used to be given to the poor.

In the 17th century, and earlier, the King or Queen would wash the feet of the selected poor people as a gesture of humility, and in remembrance of Jesus' washing the feet of the disciples. The last monarch to do this was James 2. The ceremony of the monarch giving money to the poor on this day dates back to Edward 1.

Why Is it Called “Good” Friday? April 10th

In Christianity, Good Friday is the day Jesus was crucified in Jerusalem. It is a day of mourning, and there are special services to commemorate the crucifixion and suffering of Jesus, also known as the Passion of Christ. In most Anglican churches, there are no flowers or decorations on Good Friday.

It may seem strange that a day of death and suffering is known as “Good” Friday, and there are a number of theories to explain why. The word “Good” may simply be a different spelling or rendering of “God,” or it may have been another, now lost, meaning of “holy.” Another theory is that the tragedy of the crucifixion of Jesus brought great “good” to his followers.

Holy Saturday April 11th is the last day of Holy Week and ends the season of Lent. Easter vigil services in the United Kingdom on Holy Saturday can be traced back to the early years of Christianity during the time of the Roman empire. One tradition that still has symbolic significance today is lighting candles during the Easter vigil services. The lit candle, known as the Paschal candle, signifies the light of Jesus Christ, and that he brings light into darkness.

Christians celebrate Easter Sunday April 12th as the day of Jesus Christ’s resurrection, which is written in the New Testament of the Christian bible. According to the Gospel of John in the New Testament, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb where Jesus was buried and found it

empty. An angel told her that Jesus had risen. Christians worldwide have celebrated Easter for centuries.

However, the roots of the Easter holiday's traditions and activities can be traced back to pagan celebrations. The name Easter is believed to come from Eostara, the goddess of rebirth. In early times the Feast of Eostara celebrated earth's resurrection and rebirth. Strict Puritans would have nothing to do with Easter – it was merely a human institution – in the past. Charles I, king of England, declared the day as scriptural as Sunday in 1647 but Parliament contradicted him in print and abolished it with other church festivals.

The Easter date depends on the ecclesiastical approximation of the March equinox. In 325CE the Council of Nicaea decided that the Easter date would be the first Sunday after the first full moon occurring on or after the March equinox. Easter is therefore delayed one week if the full moon is on Sunday, which lessens the likelihood of it falling on the same day as the Jewish Passover. Eastern Orthodox churches in many countries such as Greece still figure their Easter date based on the Julian calendar.

Easter Monday History

Easter Monday is a Christian holiday that celebrates the death and resurrection of Christ. Since the Bible does not recount what occurred on Easter Monday, most Western nations that observe the holiday celebrate it with a day off after Easter. For some, Easter Monday is a remembrance of Christ's death and resurrection while others use it for Easter egg hunts and polka festivals.

Easter Monday is always held the day after Easter Sunday, which is the first Sunday after the Paschal full moon. Easter Monday thus always falls between March 23 and April 26.

St George's Day April 23rd

The most widely recognized symbol of St George's Day is St George's cross. This is a red cross on a white background, which is often displayed as a flag. It is used as England's national flag, forming part of the Union Flag, the national flag of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. Saint George's cross was originally the flag of the maritime Republic of Genoa. Around 1190, the King of England started paying the Doge of Genoa to protect ships originally from the city of London and the rest of England that sailed in the Mediterranean.

During the crusades in the 1100s and 1200s, English knights used St George's cross as part of their uniform. It has been the official flag of England for centuries, but the Union Flag, a combination of St George's cross, St Andrew's cross and St Patrick's cross, is the national flag of the United Kingdom. Now Saint George's cross is used as a national symbol by fans of the English national football, rugby and cricket teams. At international matches, flags and scarves bearing this cross are worn and people paint it on their faces. It also has a prominent place on the arms of the City of London and the flags of the city of Barcelona, Spain, and the country of Georgia.

Well-known Easter hymns, but they have had their words jumbled up.

1. Ila oyrlg audl and orouhn
2. Ila nveaeh arlsdcee
3. nda acn ti eb
4. eb lstli nda nkwo hatt i ma ogd

5. eb tllsi fro teh erscnepe fo eht rdol
6. earebht no em tabahr fo gdo
7. hrsict het rlod si eisnr ydaot
8. ofmr anehev ouy ocme
9. eh si rdol

10. i ecandd ni eht grnnimo
11. i oknw taht ym rdemreee eilsv
12. amke wya, amek awy
13. onrmnig ahs eonkrb
14. deri no, ider no ni mateysj

15. Kroc fo gsae
16. eth dol rgdeug srcos
17. heter si a negre illh raf awya
18. tnihe eb teh lgoyr
19. eerw ouy heter
20. enwh i rsevuy the dunroswo ocsrs

NORMA'S WORDSEARCH

M	T	H	O	R	N	S	G	O	T	C
D	A	I	S	R	E	I	S	A	E	H
C	B	U	N	N	Y	G	E	E	Y	I
R	R	N	N	H	A	R	G	A	A	C
O	L	U	L	D	T	E	D	S	D	K
W	L	L	C	U	A	I	J	T	S	E
N	A	A	H	I	R	Y	E	E	R	N
S	N	J	M	F	F	O	R	R	U	S
T	Y	T	D	B	H	I	I	S	H	F
F	E	O	S	T	S	I	E	V	T	E
I	O	H	O	E	L	I	D	D	A	Y
G	T	I	N	A	I	L	S	M	E	S

Maunday
Thursday
Good Friday
Gifts
Nails

Treat
Risen
Easter
Crown
Thorns

Bunny
Eggs
Chickens
Crucified
Lambs

*When you have found all the above words work out the message
That is with the left over letters:-*

Crossword Clues

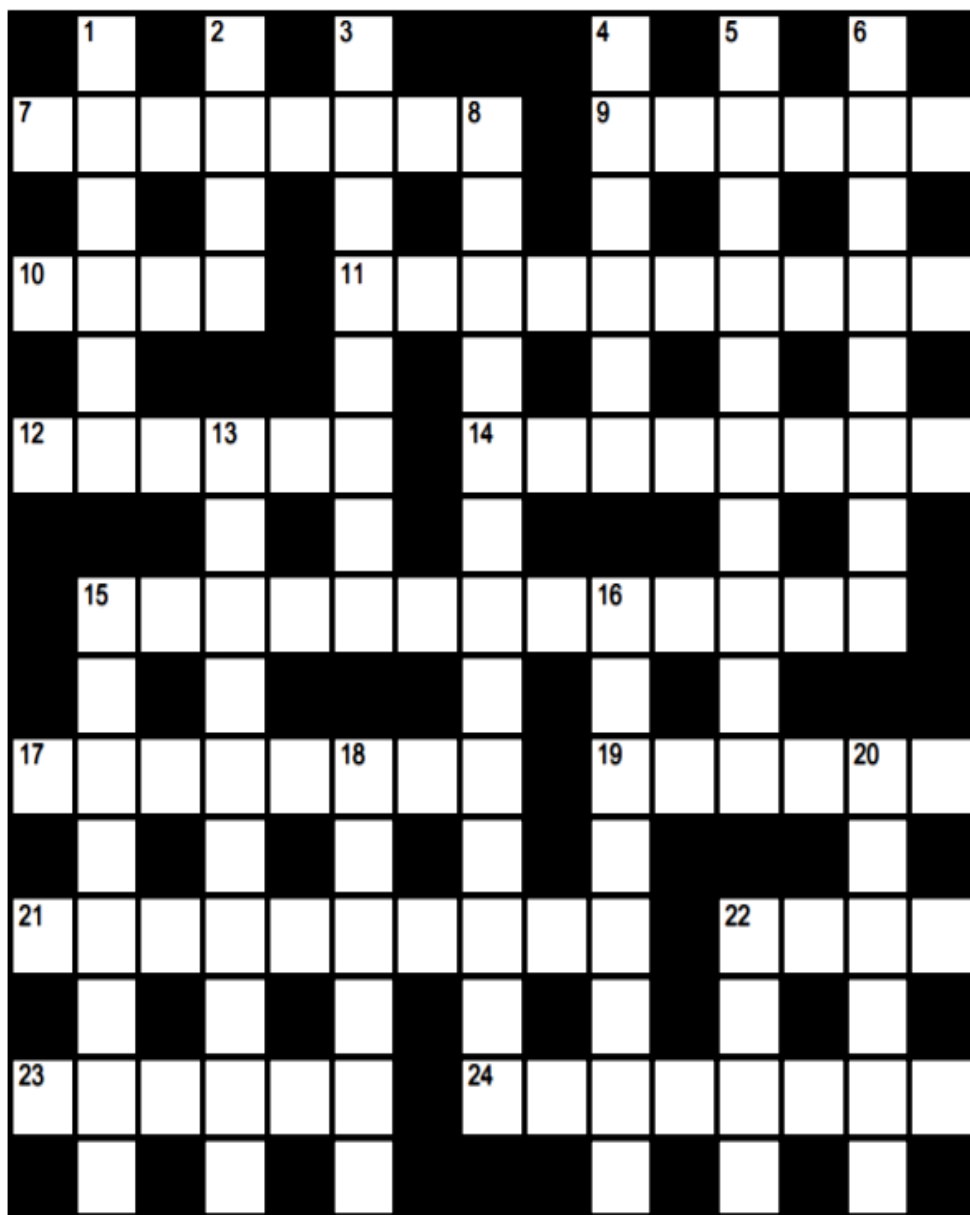
Across

- 7 Remembering Israel's deliverance from Egypt (8)
- 9 A mother who gave her son to the Lord in service (6)
- 10 Father (4)
- 11 Genealogically recorded (10)
- 12 Father of seven daughters (6)
- 14 Tether for a Hebrew mobile home (4-4)
- 15 It would help our understanding! (13)
- 17 Painful (8)
- 19 At peace (6)
- 21 Those who watch the world go by (10)
- 22 Siloam for example (4)
- 23 Reflect (6)
- 24 Adept (8)

Down

- 1 They mocked Jesus (6)
- 2 Paul forbidden to preach here (4)
- 3 God will do this with our sins if we repent (8)
- 4 Selected (6)
- 5 What Jesus does for us (10)
- 6 How we should be if we trust God (8)
- 8 Goodness (13)
- 13 Gleaners (10)
- 15 Number of years taken to build the temple (5-3)
- 16 Jesus said the kings exercised it over them (8)
- 18 Hoarded riches are harmful to these people (6)
- 20 Time to go! (6)
- 22 Could be crossed or waved in celebration (4)

CROSSWORD



Find the fifteen differences between the two pictures of St. Patrick's Day



Christian Days of the Week

Monday - Wash Day

Lord, help me wash away all my selfishness and vanity, so I may serve you with perfect humility through the week ahead.

Tuesday - Ironing Day

Dear Lord, help me iron out all the wrinkles of prejudice I have collected through the years so that I may see the beauty in others.

Wednesday - Mending Day

O God, help me mend my ways so I will not set a bad example for others.

Thursday - Cleaning Day

Lord Jesus, help me to dust out all the many faults I have been hiding in the secret corners of my heart.

Friday - Shopping Day

O God, give me the grace to shop wisely so I may purchase eternal happiness for myself and all others in need of love

Saturday - Cooking Day

Help me, my Saviour, to brew a big kettle of brotherly love and serve it with clean, sweet bread of human kindness.

Sunday – The Lord's Day

O God, I have prepared my house for you. Please come into my heart as my honoured guest so I may spend the day and the rest of my life in your presence.

Friendship

We grow closer to each other
When we're closer to the Lord,
The common faith that we share
Binds our hearts in one accord

For friendships last a life time
When built on Jesus Christ,
Throughout each different season,
We find we are in life

Friends are there through times of grief
And times when hope is gone,
Always there with encouragement
So we can carry on

So thank the Lord for giving you
A true and faithful friend,
To laugh with you, and cry with you,
On whom you can depend

For friends will stay no matter what,
Giving you support
And together your hearts truly unite
With the love of the Lord.

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Easter Hymns Answers

1. All Glory Laud and Honour
2. All Heaven Declares
3. And can it be
4. Be still and know that I am God
5. Be still for the presence of the lord

6. Breathe on me breath of God
7. Christ the lord is risen today
8. From Heaven you came
9. He is lord
10. I danced in the morning

11. I know that my redeemer lives
12. Make way, make way
13. Morning has broken
14. Ride on, ride on in majesty
15. Rock of ages

16. The old rugged cross
17. There is a green hill far away
18. Thine be the glory
19. Were you there
20. When I survey the wondrous cross

Crossword Answers

Across: 7 Passover, 9 Hannah, 10 Abba, 11 Registered, 12 Jethro, 14 Tent-cord, 15 Foreknowledge, 17 Grievous, 19 Rested, 21 Bystanders, 22 Pool, 23 Mirror, 24 Skillful.

Down: 1 Rabble, 2 Asia, 3 Overlook, 4 Chosen, 5 Intercedes, 6 Carefree, 8 Righteousness, 13 Harvesters, 15 Forty-six, 16 Lordship, 18 Owners, 20 Exodus, 22 Palm.

Norma's Wordsearch Answer

The message is:- God is risen Hallelujah enjoy this festive holiday times

There is the Pastorate AGM at Heath on Wednesday 25th March at 7.30pm.

We have a Pastorate service at Luddenden Foot on 29th March, which starts at 10.45am.

We have a Pastorate service at New Hope on Good Friday 10th April, which starts at 10.30am.

GOOD FRIDAY
10th April
PASTORATE SERVICE
at New Hope



10am refreshments in the Community Room

10.30am service in Church
followed by prayer stations

The service will last approximately 30 minutes.
Take as long as you like at the prayer stations
and leave when you're ready.

PASTORATE CALENDAR

March

Fri	6 th	12 noon	Luddenden Foot	Luncheon Club
Sun.	8 th	after morning service	Heath	Church AGM
Sun.	8 th	4.00pm	Heath	Messy Church
Wed	11 th	2.15pm	New Hope	Friendship Hour
Thu.	12 th	7.30pm	Heath	Thursday Club
Sat.	14 th	9.00am	Heath	Task Day
Sun.	15 th	after morning service	New Hope	Church AGM
Tue.	17 th	10.30am	Heath	community coffee morn.
Mon	23 rd	7.30pm	New Providence	New Provi Circle
Wed	25 th	2.15pm	New Hope	Friendship Hour
Wed	25 th	7.30pm	Heath	Pastorate AGM

April

Fri	3 rd	12 noon	Luddenden Foot	Luncheon Club
Sat.	4 th	10.00am	Heath	Spring Fair
Wed	8 th	2.15pm	New Hope	Friendship Hour
Thu.	9 th	7.30pm	Heath	Thursday Club
Wed	15 th	7.30pm	New Providence	Elders Meeting
Fri	17 th	12 noon	Luddenden Foot	Luncheon Club
Sun.	19 th	12.45pm	New Providence	Church Meeting
Tue.	21 st	10.30am	Heath	community coffee morn.
Wed	22 nd	2.15pm	New Hope	Friendship Hour
Mon.	27 th	7.30pm	New Providence	New Provi Circle
Thu.	30 th	7.30pm	Heath	Elders meeting in the lounge

PREACHER PLAN

HEATH URC, MANOR DRIVE, 10.30 AM

- Apr. 5th Mr. Martin Pollard
Apr. 10th Good Friday Pastorate Service at New Hope
Apr. 12th Rev Heather Pollard
Apr. 19th Mrs Dawn Walker
Apr. 26th Rev John Jenkinson

NEW HOPE URC, WARLEY ROAD 10.30 AM

- Apr. 5th Mrs. Juliet Foster
Apr. 10th Rev Heather Pollard Good Friday Pastorate Service
Apr. 12th Mr. David Truswell
Apr. 19th Mr. Martin Pollard
Apr. 26th Alison Dobson

NEW PROVIDENCE URC, KEIGHLEY ROAD 11.00 AM

- Apr. 5th Mr. Jim Walker
Apr. 9th Mrs. Juliet Foster Maundy Service (7.30pm)
Apr. 10th Good Friday Pastorate Service at New Hope
Apr. 12th Mrs. Juliet Foster
Apr. 19th Rev Heather Pollard
Apr. 26th TBA

LUDDENDEN FOOT, CIVIC CENTRE, STATION RD. 10.45 AM

- Apr. 5th Rev Heather Pollard
Apr. 10th Good Friday Pastorate Service at New Hope
Apr. 12th TBA
Apr. 19th Mr. R. Booth
Apr. 26th TBA



PREACHER PLAN

HEATH URC, MANOR DRIVE, 10.30 AM

Mar. 1st Mr. Jim Walker

Mar. 8th Rev Heather Pollard

Mar. 15th Rev John Jenkinson

Mar. 22nd Rev Heather Pollard

Mar. 29th Pastorate Service at Luddenden Foot

NEW HOPE URC, WARLEY ROAD 10.30 AM

Mar. 1st Mr. Peter Fleming

Mar. 8th Mrs. Juliet Foster

Mar. 15th Rev Heather Pollard

Mar. 22nd Mr. Andrew Mitchell

Mar. 29th Rev John Jenkinson

NEW PROVIDENCE URC, KEIGHLEY ROAD 11.00 AM

Mar. 1st Mrs. Juliet Foster

Mar. 8th Mr. Ken Lees-Wolfenden

Mar. 15th Mrs Sue Lees-Wolfenden

Mar. 22nd Mr. Peter Oates

Mar. 29th Pastorate Service at Luddenden Foot

LUDDENDEN FOOT, CIVIC CENTRE, STATION RD. 10.45 AM

Mar. 1st Rev Heather Pollard

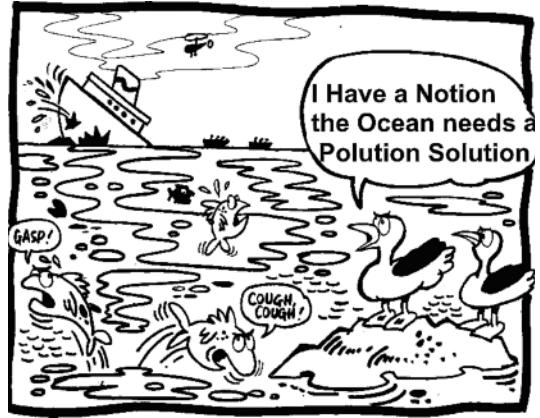
Mar. 8th Rev P. Taylor

Mar. 15th Mr. Martin Pollard

Mar. 22nd Mrs. Sue Ng

Mar. 29th Pastorate Service





Useful Numbers

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May Deadline



All contribution need to be in by **THURSDAY APRIL 9TH Please.** These can be either handed in to your church reps or stop press direct to the editor at: robertbrook@sky.com

Thank you.