

Parish News

MONTHLY MAGAZINE

for the people of Ashburton, Bickington & Buckland-in-the-Moor



April 2021

**THE BENEFICE OF ASHBURTON, BICKINGTON, BUCKLAND IN THE MOOR, HOLNE,
HUCCABY, LEUSDON, POSTBRIDGE,
AND WIDECOMBE-IN-THE-MOOR**

The Ministry Team
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Baptisms, Marriages and Funerals please contact the Team Rector

THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW, ASHBURTON

THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER, BUCKLAND-IN-THE-MOOR

THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY THE VIRGIN, BICKINGTON

CORONAVIRUS - COVID 19 UPDATE

Please also be aware, the Church of England has issued guidance - face coverings are mandatory when attending church services (some exemptions apply). If you feel unable to wear a face covering, please let one of our team know, but remember you are very welcome.

BENEFICE OFFICE: St. Andrew's Church Hall, West Street, Ashburton, TQ13 7DT
Team Administrator Tel: 01364 654280 24hr Answerphone
Opening Times: Tues, Wed & Friday 9am-1pm e-mail: admin@moorlandteam.org.uk

PARISH OFFICE: Lorna Harvey Room, St. Andrew's Church Hall,
Parish Secretary, email: parishoffice1@tiscali.co.uk

CHURCH WEBSITE Diocese of Exeter www.exeter.anglican.org



Something happened on that first Easter Day two thousand years ago. Something that has inspired and motivated millions of people ever since; motivated them to try and behave differently, to make the world a happier, safer and more loving place. These people found a release from their misery and oppression,

became determined to make amends for mistakes they had made, and having started to lead a different kind of life, found joy and fulfilment and peace, which spread to those around them. They became Christians, followers of Jesus Christ who was killed on the cross for nothing he did wrong.

What happened? Well, all we really know is that dozens of people encountered Jesus after his death in a mysterious way – they saw him, met him, and then he “vanished from their sight”. They had an incredibly personal experience of encounter that transformed them from depressed mourners to joyful followers. Writing as a scientist (which I am), I know that the experiences that people had were unrepeatable and very personal. They had a spiritual experience that somehow inspired them to continue Jesus’ work of challenging injustice and improving their own behaviour, trying to live up to Jesus’ example. They felt they had been given another chance, something so personal that it couldn’t be bottled, any more than you can bottle the feeling of falling in love!

Today I come across many people who say “I can’t believe any of that stuff” They try and disprove the event by saying “that can’t have happened”, but then ignore the result – the result being a whole lot of people living a new life, and that did happen! The disciples were transformed, were empowered, were changed almost beyond recognition, and they couldn’t stop telling other people about it. Even when threatened with prosecution and death, they couldn’t stop enthusing about what Jesus had done!

In recent years, some of the most powerful and dramatic stories of people coming to a Christian faith are stories of prisoners who are serving long sentences for terrible acts of violence or assault. Some such people find a release and a fresh beginning by acknowledging the hurt they caused their victims, and discovering that they are hurting too, with guilt and shame unable

to be hidden any longer. Perhaps a Chaplain lays hands on them and they find an enormous relief and peace in becoming a Christian, becoming determined to make amends and apologise, and often setting out to try and dissuade others from being drawn into the same criminal life.

But I am even more cheered by the undramatic, day by day acts of kindness and love by quiet people who are trying to do their bit to make the world a better place. I believe that in everyone there is a desire to do good, but it turns out to be remarkably hard! For instance we discover that despite our best efforts we still upset people, that good intentions still fade away. Which is why Jesus' message and inspiration is about receiving forgiveness and having a fresh start, time and time again. Then thanking God that he loves us even when it all goes wrong. Drawing on the source of world-changing energy that powered Jesus – that of knowing that he was loved by God.

Easter Day was the start of all this. From Easter springs the joy of a fulfilled life. The joy of healed feuds. The joy of new life springing up. Easter is a day that will always be celebrated by everyone who has caught even a glimpse of Jesus' love.

With every blessing

Geoffrey

REGISTER ENTRIES for 2021 from Ashburton, Buckland & Bickington

FUNERAL

9 March '21	St. Andrew's Church, Ashburton	Robin STURDY
31 March '21	St. Andrew's Church, Ashburton	Michael WAYCOTT

General Note:

We make every effort to ensure that information contained in this magazine is accurate at the time of printing. Please be aware that changes may occur later.

Editor

EDITORIAL

Things don't seem to be going so well at the moment. We have had the good news of the staggering amount of vaccinations being carried out. We also know of the subsequent drop in the statistics of infections and deaths. However, there seems to have been an increase in violence, theft and general lawlessness. For example, the fraudulent job adverts where applicants' details are used for money laundering and identity theft. Also there is the very distressing theft of pet dogs. I won't carry on, it's too depressing. Plus today's early News Broadcast showed pictures of Volcanic eruptions!

To happier things. Thank you to the Methodists for their generous gifts of Chocolate to the volunteers who help people. What a great idea.

Thanks as well to Sarah Hills for her lovely Springtime Embroidery, photographed here for our front cover.



Judith

ASHBURTON LOCKDOWN LARDER



FREE BASIC FOOD NEEDS

Confidential, no forms & free delivery.

07902 390558

Too happy to help in these difficult times.

We've now relocated to Church House, 32a West Street.

Accepting food and cash donations.

If you would prefer to make a donation online,
visit **www.ashburton.org**

Bible Readings for April

**The Reading is taken from St. John's Gospel
Chapter 20, verses 1-18**



The Empty Tomb

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene went to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the entrance. So she came running to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one Jesus loved, and said, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we don't know where they have put him!"

So Peter and the other disciple started for the tomb. Both were running, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. He bent over and looked in at the strips of linen lying there but did not go in. Then Simon Peter came along behind him and went straight into the tomb. He saw the strips of linen lying there, as well as the cloth that had been wrapped around Jesus' head. The cloth was still lying in its place, separate from the linen. Finally the other disciple, who had reached the tomb first, also went inside. He saw and believed. (They still did not understand from Scripture that Jesus had to rise from the dead.) Then the disciples went back to where they were staying.

Jesus Appears to Mary Magdalene

Now Mary stood outside the tomb crying. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb and saw two angels in white, seated where Jesus' body had been, one at the head and the other at the foot.

They asked her, "Woman, why are you crying?"

"They have taken my Lord away," she said, "and I don't know where they have put him." At this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not realize that it was Jesus.

He asked her, "Woman, why are you crying? Who is it you are looking for?"



Thinking he was the gardener, she said, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have put him, and I will get him."

Jesus said to her, "Mary."

She turned toward him and cried out in Aramaic, "Rabboni!" (which means "Teacher").

Jesus said, "Do not hold on to me, for I have not yet ascended to the Father. Go instead to my brothers and tell them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.'"

Mary Magdalene went to the disciples with the news: "I have seen the Lord!" And she told them that he had said these things to her.

St ANDREW'S CLOCK CHIMING.

You may have noticed that the clock is striking the hour only at present.

The motor operating the quarter hour chiming has broken down and has been taken away by our clock maintainers the Cumbrian Clock Company to repair. This has now been completed and its return is awaited. This may take a little time because the Cumbrian Clock Company have a large backlog of work due to the Covid 19 Lockdown.

Brian Lewis



CHURCH ELECTORAL ROLL.

It is time for us to review and update the Church Electoral Roll. If you are already on the roll and wish to remain you do not need to do anything. If you are not sure if your name is included there is a list in Church for you to check or you can contact me as below. If you are not on the roll and wish to be included again there are forms in Church or contact me and I can e-mail an application form to you.

Many Thanks.

Janet Lockwood-Lee (Electoral Roll Officer)
janet.drake123@btinternet.com or 01364 652080



ST. ANDREW'S ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING

will be held on

**on SUNDAY 16th May, 2021
following the 10.30am Service**

in St. Andrew's Church

This will be followed by a short PCC meeting.

FROM THE RIGHT REVD JACKIE SEARLE, BISHOP OF CREDITON.

We had hoped ... to sing our Alleluias in Church on Easter Day, to gather with our friends and families, to be 'back to normal'.

We had hoped ... some of the most poignant words of scripture, words of grief and longing, that were spoken on the road to Emmaus (Luke 24). Two travellers, walking away from Jerusalem, entrust their sadness to a stranger.



We had hoped, they said, that Jesus would be the one to save us. Unknown to them, he is the very person to whom they are speaking. The one in whom they had hoped, the one they had witnessed dying on a cross. He was here now walking beside them, and they didn't recognise him. But at his invitation they are telling their story.

This is still the invitation of the risen Lord Jesus – tell me how it is, let me hear your story. As we look back over the past year, we have had hopes that have risen and fallen. The risen Lord Jesus is interested in our hopes and our disappointments. He invites us to share them with him.

As the three draw near to the village of Emmaus the couple invite Jesus in to eat and stay. 'When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened.' Like those disciples, may our eyes be opened and hearts set on fire by the risen Jesus giving us new hope and faith. For whether in sadness or joy the truth is this – that Christ is risen from the dead, and the way to life stands open. So let us shout and sing our Alleluias however and wherever we are. For we are Easter people and Alleluia is our song.

GROWING THE RURAL CHURCH GOES DIGITAL TO HELP RURAL CHURCHES THRIVE

The new Growing the Rural Church online resource hub to help rural churches 'grow and thrive' has been launched by the Bishop of Exeter.

Growing the Rural Church (GtRC) is a Diocese of Exeter pilot project funded by the Church of England's Strategic Development Fund.

Its aim is to resource rural mission communities to creatively use their talents and buildings to connect with their communities and landscapes to develop sustainable futures.

Growing the Rural Church began in 2017, but is now relaunching following a major re-appraisal of its operational methods during the pandemic.

The resource hub will offer churches across the UK support to plan projects, apply for grants, work with local communities, get help with building maintenance, plan special events and make the most of church festivals.

As well as free tutorial videos and online guidance, there will be regular free webinars throughout the year.

The Growing the Rural Church team also wants to help churches explore innovative uses for their buildings, for example as community work hubs and cafés during the week for people working from home.

Sarah Cracknell, the project manager, said "When the pandemic hit, we couldn't operate as before, going out to meet church groups face to face.

"We realised that offering support online would enable us to offer the same advice and



guidance to a much greater number of rural churches.

"Also, we can connect churches in similar situations with each other through the webinars, so they can work together more easily."

The Bishop of Exeter, the Right Reverend Robert Atwell, said "Helping our rural churches to grow and flourish is something I am passionate about.

"For centuries our village churches have been at the heart of our communities

and now rural life is at a turning point with people rediscovering the 'gift of local'.

"A healthy church is a sign of a healthy society and the Growing the Rural Church team is here to help with that."

Sarah said the project was about much more than just preserving church buildings for the future.

"We want to help churches which see they need to change in order to survive, grow and thrive," she said.

"We are really excited about the launch. This feels like it could be a helpful resource for rural churches.

"It will give them the essential building blocks to be sustainable but it also has a lot of creative ideas for 'risk taking' and growth."

Sarah said the lifestyle changes forced by the pandemic had given rural churches a renewed opportunity to be at the heart of their communities:

"People are becoming much more committed to their local areas and as a society we have become more aware of the needs of others and the importance of our own wellbeing.

"Rural churches have a unique opportunity to speak into that.

"We are hoping to work with the Devon Work Hubs organisation to encourage churches to offer community work spaces so people don't just have to work at home alone.

"People are missing that connection with others."

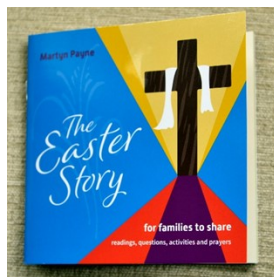




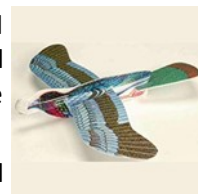
MESSY CHURCH April 2021

What is happening this month?

March has come and gone. It is hard to believe that on **March 13th, 2020** we worried about closing Messy Church. We were the second group using the Hall to cancel their activity. We didn't want to overreact!! Since then, we have had to come to terms with a lot of changes; none of us dreamed we would still be unable to hold regular Messy Church meetings. On last month's Messy Church Zoom meeting Simeon asked me with a twinkle in his eyes "How are we going to have our meal together?" Another helper said to me recently.... "I can't believe how much I miss seeing everyone and coming to Messy Church. **"The good news is we hope that in May we will be able to hold some sort of Messy Church in the open air.**" This all depends on what happens in the next few weeks. Please join me in praying to God asking him to inspire us and help us to get back together and share that meal soon.



In **April** we are sending out by post a book called **"The Easter Story for families to share"**. It has stories to read, questions, activities, and prayers for families to enjoy. Norma is writing a message to go in the books with our love. The books will arrive a week before Easter Sunday. This is our Easter present and it is April's Messy Church offering jammed full of ideas for all the family to do over the Easter Holidays.



In **March** we told the **Parable of the Mustard Seed**. This proved immensely popular. We sent out Mustard seeds to growand they did!! Oh, Jane you are a doubting Thomas. All enjoyed the gliders - at least one flew into a hedge!! **Matthew 13: 31-33** We all laughed at the Zoom meeting as we shared our efforts at making a latex glove inflate with the gas given off by the Yeast Experiment. Then we sang along to the children's song "Grow, Proclaim and Serve." Talking about our faith growing like seeds and yeast.



In Faith, Hope and Joy I pray that Messy Church may restart safely soon.

Jane

**Baby Group Two has started.
Are you having a baby in the summer?
We want to hear from you.**



Baby Group 2 will initially be by Zoom, but we are hoping to expand it to **live meetings** as soon as the government allows.

Can you share this advert with anyone you know who is having a baby? We have 4 new Mums so far who live locally around Ashburton. It would be lovely to link up with other expectant Mums.

We have had one **Zoom meeting so far it was exciting to meet each other.**

As people are working still we are varying the time we meet to suit as many as possible. Suggested times are an evening and sometimes 2pm. **Please join us and tell us what time would suit you.**

Please contact Jane for a link to for the next Zoom or text Jane so she can join you to the WhatsApp group. **Jane 07850 974 286 mobile.**

Jane's email jashton@globalnet.co.uk 01364 654 067 landline

ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH HALL

The St. Andrew's Church Hall is now taking bookings for after May 17th. I can't wait to start welcoming all of our past and future users.

Due to the long closure of the hall we have undertaken a complete clean through and overhaul, especially of the kitchen. Everything has been cleaned and we have changed the cupboards around. Our aim is for St. Andrew's Hall to have a well equipped kitchen that we are proud to share with the many organisations our town is lucky to have. With this in mind we are purchasing a number of items for the kitchen. This should make the facility even better for organisations who want to use it.

If any organisation would like to contribute to the re-fit please contact either myself or the Parish Office.

I would like to thank those that have helped get things ready, especially Jean Histed who has been a marvel.

Eve Nuttley,
Bookings Secretary

ST BONIFACE AWARDS ARE A CHANCE TO HONOUR UNSUNG HEROES

The Bishop of Exeter launched this year's St Boniface Awards to honour people in Devon's church communities who have gone above and beyond to "serve with joy" in the county's churches, church schools and the wider community.

Bishop Robert said he would particularly like to see people being nominated who have been working hard to make a difference during the pandemic.

He said, "the pandemic has been a traumatic time for individuals, families and communities everywhere.

"Here in Devon we have a golden opportunity this spring, through the annual St Boniface Awards, to honour those who have gone the second mile in reaching out to their neighbour.

"Our unsung heroes deserve to be celebrated. Help us to recognise and thank them."

The annual awards, named after Devon's patron saint, were launched in 2019 but cancelled last year due to the pandemic.

Winners will be admitted to the Company of St Boniface and invited to receive a special St Boniface medal from Bishop Robert at a service at Exeter Cathedral on 19 June (depending on Covid restrictions).

Nominees need to be practising lay members of an Anglican church or connected to a Church of England School. There is no upper or lower age limit.

Annie Jeffries, who is one of the awards judges and represents lay members of the Church of England in Devon, said, "as Chair of the House of Laity, I would like to really encourage people to put forward the names of individuals who have done so much to help their local communities during the past year of lockdowns.

"It has been an extraordinarily challenging time for everyone and to be able to honour those individuals with a St Boniface medal would be a wonderful way of expressing the thanks and gratitude of the Diocese."

The Rev'd Prebendary James Grier, Mission Enabler for the Diocese of Exeter,



said “There are so many people from churches right across Devon who serve faithfully and sacrificially in normal times and all the more so in times of crisis.

“They do so as part of the outworking of their Christian faith and with no expectation of recognition or reward.

“They simply love in response to their experience of Christ’s love in their own lives.

“The St Boniface Awards offer a wonderful way for us to acknowledge the wonderful work of some individuals and the impact on their communities.

“It is also an opportunity to express our immense gratitude.”

The St Boniface nominations process closes on Tuesday 6 April.



Book a rapid Covid-19 test now.

Around 1 in 3 people with Covid-19 don't have any symptoms, but can pass it on.

Do it for your ▶ FamilyCommunityDevon

ASYMPTOMATIC COMMUNITY TESTING NOW AVAILABLE IN NEWTON ABBOT

Newton Abbot has been added to the list of stops for our new mobile community testing centres this week.

The service, which offers rapid tests for people without symptoms, with results available within the hour, will be at Teignbridge Depot Car Park on

the Brunel Industrial Estate between 8.30am and 5.30pm every Friday. And from Sunday 21 March it will also visit the town's Cattle Market every Sunday.

If you are a carer, a member of a household or support bubble with school-aged children or you leave the house to work or volunteer, we encourage you to take these quick and simple tests twice a week to identify whether you are carrying the virus and potentially unknowingly giving it to others. If you test positive you'll need to isolate immediately to break the chain of transmission.

To book a test visit: <https://www.devon.gov.uk/coronavirus-advice-in-devon/document/coronavirus-testing-in-devon/>



Coronavirus (COVID-19) response update from Devon County Council

YOUNG PEOPLE WARNED ABOUT 'FAKE JOBS' ON SOCIAL MEDIA

Trading Standards is warning young people to be wary of fake job adverts on social media that at first glance might appear to be the answer to their financial worries.

The pandemic has hit the pockets of many financially, but none more so than young people, many of which are students who rely on jobs in the tourist and hospitality sectors.

Some fake job adverts on social media have the sole aim of harvesting personal details, which are later used to commit identity theft. Fake jobs advertised have included roles such as COVID testers or admin support.

Action Fraud has been alerted to 4,540 COVID-19 related fraud and cybercrimes, resulting in total losses of £21.8m since the start of the pandemic.

But other jobs are posted with the intention of duping young people into laundering money. Often, criminals who want to move money through accounts but want to avoid the scrutiny of banks, employ 'mules' who allow their account to be used. According to fraud prevention experts Cifas, more than four in 10 cases of money mules involved victims aged 21 to 30.

There were 17,157 cases of suspected money muling involving 21 to 30-year-olds in 2020, a 5 per cent increase on the previous year.

By responding to some of these adverts, at best you could be giving away your personal details and at worst you could be duped into committing a criminal offence. Anyone who has been offered a job through social media and thinks it might be a scam should contact the organisation directly using officially listed contact details to confirm if the offer is genuine.

For more advice or to report an incident go to the [Safer Jobs](#) website.





Urgent Call for New Volunteer Governors to Help Devon's Schools

Schools across Devon, including Plymouth and Torbay, urgently need new governors as they continue to deal with the coronavirus crisis which has left a large gap in children's education.

The Diocese of Exeter, which has responsibility for the county's 133 Church of England schools, is re-launching its **Be A Governor** campaign in order to meet the need for volunteer governors on the frontline at this time.

Christina Mabin, the Diocesan Education Advisor with responsibility for Governance and a primary school governor during the pandemic said, "Governors are needed now more than ever. During the first lockdown, I was being contacted on a regular basis with updates on the ever-changing situation. Schools were open to key workers and vulnerable children, staff were working weekends and holidays and we were having to make key decisions about trying to keep all staff and children safe. This involved decisions on closing the school for short periods of time. There is a lot of pressure on school leaders and school staff. Governors can help support them."

School governors are volunteers who work strategically with schools giving both support and challenge and are much needed at a time when schools are working hard to deliver a recovery curriculum with the aim of levelling the learning for all children.

Working with staff to ensure that all children get the best education is very rewarding. Governors do not need to be parents or previously connected to the school but need to have the right skills and be committed.

Sue Lockwood, Acting Director of Education, for the Diocese of Exeter, said, "School Leaders and their staff have been doing a great job throughout the pandemic in serving the needs of their students and families. They are working long hours to ensure school communities are safe and that students' wellbeing and education are continuing positively. Governors play a vital role in this work. People who can come forward to be governors could make a real difference right now."

To find out more about becoming a school governor visit:

<https://exeter.anglican.org/schools/be-a-governor/>

ASHBURTON & MOORLAND TEAM

Upcoming Services

APRIL 2021

THURS 1ST	6PM	MAUNDY THURSDAY INSTITUTION OF LAST SUPPER, HUCCABY
FRIDAY 2ND	10AM 11:30AM	PRAYER STATIONS AVAILABLE, ASHBURTON ALL-AGE SERVICE AT FOOT OF CROSS
SUN 4TH	9AM 10:30AM 10:30AM 11AM	EASTER COMMUNION, BICKINGTON ALL-AGE COMMUNION, ASHBURTON + ONLINE EASTER COMMUNION, HOLNE EASTER COMMUNION, BUCKLAND
SUN 11TH	10:30AM	PARISH COMMUNION, ASHBURTON
SUN 18TH	9AM 10.30AM 2PM 3PM	HOLY COMMUNION, HUCCABY PARISH COMMUNION, ASHBURTON + ONLINE MOOR CHURCH (ALL-AGE), VENUE TBC HOLY COMMUNION, BUCKLAND
SUN 25TH	9AM 10.30AM 5PM	BREAKFAST CHURCH, ASHBURTON PARISH COMMUNION, ASHBURTON + ONLINE HOLY COMMUNION, HOLNE



HOLY COMMUNION SERVICES
EVERY WEDNESDAY @10.30AM
ST ANDREW'S ASHBURTON



WWW.ASHBURTONANDMOOR.ORG.UK



HOLY WEEK PILGRIMAGE 2021

SUN 28TH MARCH - SAT 3RD APRIL
8PM VIA ZOOM

On each night, from Palm Sunday to Easter Eve, we are invited to reflect on the events of Holy Week in the service of Night Prayer. Through hymns, chants, bible reading, a short talk and period of silence for contemplation and prayer, we shall be drawn into God's passion for his world as we walk with Jesus toward the cross and beyond.

PALM SUNDAY	JESUS ENTERS JERUSALEM IN TRIUMPH
HOLY MONDAY	JESUS DISRUPTS THE TRADING IN THE TEMPLE
HOLY TUESDAY	JESUS' ENEMIES PLOT TO ARREST HIM
HOLY WEDNESDAY	JESUS IS ANOINTED AT BETHANY
MAUNDY THURSDAY	JESUS IN THE GARDEN OF GETHSEMANE
GOOD FRIDAY	THE CRUCIFIXION AND BURIAL OF JESUS
EASTER EVE	WAITING IN GRIEF AND SILENCE

You can join for Night Prayer each evening via
Zoom using the following link:

[HTTPS://US02WEB.ZOOM.US/J/81519278088](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81519278088)

Please take a step and make the journey.
Yours in Jesus Christ

+ Mark



All our online services are available
via [Facebook](#), [YouTube](#) &
our [website www.moorlandteam.org.uk](http://www.moorlandteam.org.uk).



Parish News Dates for your Diary

12 April DEADLINE FOR MAY MAGAZINE

IN PRAISE OF THE AFTERNOON NAP

A short nap in the afternoon improves your memory and keeps your brain more agile.

People who nap tend to speak more fluently, have greater mental agility, and remember things better than those who do not break up their day with sleep.

Even a five-minute nap can offer your brain a chance to down-time and replenish itself, so that it is 'good to go' again.

If you want longer than five minutes, try to stop at 40 minutes, before you enter the deepest stage of sleep. If you do carry on, sleep for two hours, which is a full sleep-cycle. The study was published in the British Medical Journal.



Ashburton Food Bank

A CONFIDENTIAL SERVICE FOR ALL IN FOOD NEED

DURING THE CORONAVIRUS EPIDEMIC

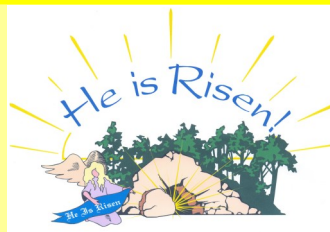
WE WILL CONTINUE TO OFFER A DELIVERY SERVICE.

If you require food please 'phone: **07767 453844** and leave a message with your name, number in household, any pets, telephone number and address. We will deliver to you as quickly as possible.

This delivery service is available to people in Bickington and Buckland-in-the-Moor and other villages around Ashburton

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.

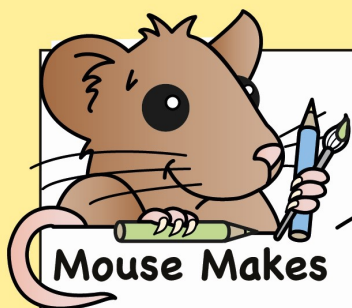
Why does the date move around so much? Because the date of Passover moves around, and according to the biblical account, Easter is tied to the Passover. Passover celebrates the Israelites' exodus from Egypt, and it lasts for seven days, from the middle of the Hebrew month of Nisan, which equates to late 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 7th April 30 AD or Friday 3rd 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 22nd March, which last fell in 1818. The latest is 25th 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.



Mouse Makes

Can you find these names of **Jesus** in the word search?

SON OF GOD

Matthew 3:16-17



KING OF KINGS

Revelation 17:14

PROPHET

Luke 24:19

PRIEST

1 Timothy 2:5



ROCK

1 Corinthians 10: 4

LORD

1 Corinthians 1:9

AMEN

Revelation 3:14

LIFE

John 11:25-27

MESSIAH

John 1:41

SHEPHERD

John 10:11

LIGHT

John 8:12



WORD

John 1:1-50

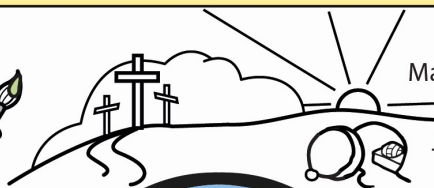


BREAD

John 6:35

CREATOR

1 John 1:3



CHRIST

Matthew 16:16

SAVIOUR

John 3:16-17

HOLY ONE

Mark 1:24

VINE

John 15:5



DOOR

John 10:9



WAY

John 14:6

LAMB

John 1:29



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



Given the time we've been going through I thought I would look back at what I wrote this

time last year. Because it was written in mid-March, there was no mention of lockdowns but a lot about rain and flooding of the Lemon. This year has been rather drier, though it hasn't always seemed like it! In fact the weather has allowed me to get on with some of the jobs which often don't get done at this time of year.

We've had the big laurel hedge trimmed, the willow pollarded and four of our river-bank alders trimmed. I've been able to give the lawn its first cut and I've tidied the lawn edges – which always makes such a big difference to the whole appearance of the garden. I've done lots of weeding, including the removal of dozens of cuckoo pint which grow freely in the lane and don't hesitate to migrate into the garden. The root of the cuckoo-pint, when roasted well, is apparently edible and when ground was once traded under the name of Portland sago. It was used as a substitute for arrowroot. Prepared incorrectly, it can be highly toxic so please don't start experimenting!

One thing I've noticed this year is that there is a lot more moss everywhere than there used to be. As always the internet is a mine of information. Mosses are ancient. They date back 450 million years, and have survived and thrived through various climate changes. They comprise 20,000 species – plus or minus a few thousand. They don't have roots so a lot of them draw in moisture and minerals from rain and the water around them through their highly absorbent surfaces. They're tougher than they look. Some mosses have been known to survive temperature highs of 100°C when dried out, and lows of -272°C. Mosses can affect the temperature of the soil, both warming it up and cooling it down depending on the environment. Mosses are important components of the vegetation in many regions of the world, and they make up a major part of the biodiversity in moist forest, wetland, mountain and tundra ecosystems. All of which is fascinating. I know it's ecologically important but I'm afraid don't want it smothering some of my low growing plants or clogging up some areas of the lawn. So most of it has been cleared, certainly from the flower beds.

No such problem in the greenhouse. Tomato seeds have been sown and most of them have germinated over

the past few days. The same goes for cucumbers. It is recommended that sweet pea seeds be sown in the autumn to give a head start in the spring. However, I'm afraid I prefer to wait until early Spring so mine were sown towards the end of February. About 75% have germinated so far.

I'm trying to grow some lobelia from seed this year but I think I left the sowing a bit too late. I have a trayful of tiny seedlings but whether I shall be able to get usable plants from them I'm not sure.

There are lots more seeds still waiting to be sown and that looks like a job for this week.



I've mentioned "my" robins before and they are a constant source of joy. They usually come down as soon as I start disturbing the soil and there have been several occasions when I've almost trodden on one of them, or dropped a forkful of compost on them. The other day they were perching on the dogwood no more than a couple of feet from where I was crouching down. One of them hopped down, picked up a grub, flew

back up to his mate and fed her the grub. I could have reached out and touched them. Lovely!

And why is it called dogwood? One source says that the common name dogwood comes from one description of the fruit as being edible but not fit for a dog. Another suggestion is that it comes from the use of the wood for skewers or "dogs." And did you know that the word "dog" itself presents a mystery? Linguists have not been able to identify its roots, nor any English words related to it. Isn't that extraordinary?

Brian Smith

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pray

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live with joy

See page 12

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).

LESSONS OF LOCKDOWN

This past year may have altered your perspective on life. Some of the following statements may be worth thinking about....

- Life is precarious
- A nurse is worth more than a professional footballer
- Spare time isn't a waste of time
- A smile is precious
- Being alone isn't the same as loneliness
- Hard work doesn't guarantee employment
- I'm spending more on food & drink and less on church & charity
- Silence opens us to creative ideas
- Social media are a mixed blessing
- Shopping needn't be addictive
- Driving less and walking more is good for humanity
- Isolation teaches us we need each other to generate energy
- Getting back to 'normal' isn't God's plan for the human race
- When everything else is shut, God is open



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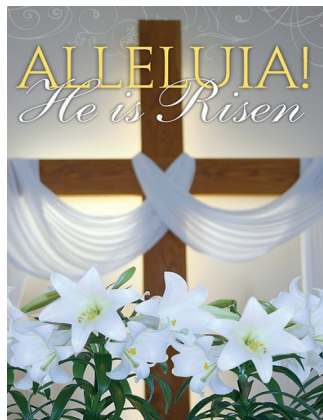
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THE CHURCH OF
ST. MARY THE VIRGIN,
BICKINGTON

Church Services



Sunday, 4th April
09.00 am

EASTER COMMUNION

Sunday, 2nd May
09.00 am



RECIPE OF THE MONTH

by kind courtesy of BBC Good Food Guide

Prep: 1 HOUR
Cook: 50 mins
plus chilling

A goat's cheese and watercress quiche that's gluten-free and truly flavoursome

GOAT'S CHEESE AND WATERCRESS QUICHE

Ingredients:

For the pastry

225g gluten-free flour , plus extra for rolling
100g butter
1 large egg , beaten, plus extra beaten egg for brushing

For the filling

1 medium onion , finely chopped
1 tbsp oil
100g watercress , roughly chopped
2 large eggs
150ml milk
150ml log soft rindless goat's cheese , in rough chunks
freshly grated nutmeg , optional



Method:

Put the flour and a pinch of salt in a large bowl. Rub in the butter until the mixture looks like breadcrumbs. Stir in the egg and about 1-2 tbsp water to form a soft dough. Knead well then wrap and chill for at least 30 minutes.

Preheat the oven to 200C/gas 6/fan 180C. Knead the pastry again and roll it out to line a 20cm loose-bottomed flan tin (the pastry won't shrink, so no need to chill). Patch holes with spare pastry and brush the base and sides with egg.

For the filling, fry the onion in the oil until just soft, add the watercress and cook until just wilted. Beat the eggs and milk and stir in the watercress mixture and goat's cheese.

Season and if you like, add a pinch of nutmeg. Put the flan tin on a baking sheet and bake the pastry blind for 5 minutes. Add the filling and bake for 15 minutes. Reduce heat to 180C/gas 4/ fan 160C and cook for 25-30 minutes or until lightly set.

ST. PETER'S CHURCH, BUCKLAND-IN-THE-MOOR



Flower Rota for APRIL

April 4th EVERYONE welcome to help decorate
the church for Easter on Saturday 3rd at 10.30am

April 11th Jonet

April 18th Sandra

April 25th Sandra

Church Services

BUCKLAND-IN-THE-MOOR CHURCH

EASTER DAY

11.00am Easter Communion



Sunday 18th April

3.00pm **HOLY COMMUNION**

Face coverings are to be worn

**ANNUAL REPORT
ST PETER'S CHURCH
BUCKLAND IN THE MOOR 2020**

For the first ten weeks of 2020 Geoff played the organ and Mark took our 3.00pm Sunday services with its usual reduced winter congregation numbers.. Then *lockdown*: the church was cleared of the remaining Christmas period items, the Tower Captain ensured the ringing chamber was left cleared of anything that could be damaged by possible water, electricity turned off and the door firmly locked. Notices were placed and the churchyard began to bloom with our annual host of daffodils. The Churchwarden and assistant wardens regularly inspected the church and the Annual Parochial Church meeting postponed.

February Ray kindly planted the two flowering cherry trees that had been donated by Liz and Jane to replace the dead one overhanging the roadside that Charles, Val and Pat spent the day helping the arborist to remove the end of the previous year. Spring and summer with the churchyard ablaze with wild flowers in the area not currently in use; whilst the well kept 'in current use' area contrasted well.

Mark put a Prayer Trail around the churchyard which proved popular with visitors and plans were made for an on-line version of St Peter's Day Songs of Praise. This turned out to be a delightful programme of Dartmoor views interspersed with hymns chosen by village residents with (Charles, Mary, Miffie, Mike, David, Gill, Sam, Jackie, Vida) The Churchwarden read a lesson; as did our farmer District Church Councillor – in one of his fields amidst his herd. This service is still available to view on-line and the 'watcher numbers' are still amongst the highest.

When churches were able to reopen, Buckland church was cleaned, parts roped off, hand cleaner containers put around and reopened all day and every day. The church was then cleaned each and every day until the end of the year. Services were sparse, some monthly, others when needed, such as Remembrance Sunday. Harvest Thanksgiving was an on-line affair. We contributed to the small churches carol service. Christmas Day a much reduced congregation; a couple of dozen rather than the usual 40 to 50. Music and singing provided by the choir of Kings College Chapel with John taking the service.

The roof 'apron' of the vestry was given a new layer of thatch in November to keep it dry over the coming years. The church roof had its fallen off slates (during the recent damaging gale) replaced during April; the work kindly donated to us by A1 Maintenance; who at that time were not allowed to carry out any work unless it was essential (Covid-19) – keeping the inside of our church dry being considered particularly essential.

A funeral of one of our own, a small maximum Covid-19 number allowed in church, but that did not stop parishioners and friends taking up social distancing in the churchyard so as to join in the service. We also hosted a 48 hour notice wedding in October; due to be married a short while later, but the country about to go into lockdown again with all weddings cancelled, its amazing what can be achieved in 48 hours! District Church Council members turned out to help. Church was fully decorated including a floral arch above the south door. A number of glorious autumn hedgerow flowers included in the displays. Even the bellringers turned up trumps, reduction in the number of bells rung – but St Peter's does have a family of bellringers so was able to conform to Covid regulations.

2020 ended with the church still open all day every day for private worship.
(9/2/2020)



UP AND RUNNING

The books to borrow or purchase together with the jigsaws to borrow is up and running in the far corner of our church. Do go in; hand equipment provided in the entrance, and help yourself.

However, the quantity of jigsaws to borrow and return is low. If you have one or two that you no longer use, perhaps you might like to consider donating them for the use of fellow parishioners. They can be left under the pews that house the books, or put behind the font—they will soon be picked up and displayed. Thank you.

EMERGENCY/USEFUL AND IMPORTANT TELEPHONE NUMBERS.

Please advise us if you think anything needs to be changed or if you have ideas for additional useful numbers.

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN ASHBURTON—CONTACTS FOR ALL MEMBER CHURCHES

St. Andrew's Church - see elsewhere in this magazine

Ashburton Methodist Church	Rev'd Kevin Hooke	01626 832369
	Agnes McFeat	07801 368378
Our Lady of Lourdes & St. Petroc	Father Francis Straw	01364 645526

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The Parish of Ashburton with Buckland-in-the-Moor

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	Mr. Francis Parffrey	654067
Deputy Churchwarden	Mr. Nick Axford	email: axfords14@gmail.com 654367
Vice Chairman PCC	Mr. William West	652666
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Secretary to the PCC	Mrs. Gill Sheridan	email: parishoffice1@tiscali.co.uk
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Gift Aid Secretary:	Mr. William West	652666
Church Hall Bookings	Mrs. Eve Nutley	email: enutley17@outlook.com 07894 966872
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Choirmaster/Organist	Position Vacant	
Choir Secretary	Mr. William West	652666
Tower Captain	Mr. Clive Davey	07912 599703
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Material for inclusion in the Parish Magazine no later than 12th of preceding month	to: Mrs Judith Lewis (Editor)	
Magazine advertising:	Judith Lewis (Editor)	652768
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Tower Captain	Mrs Clare Caunter, Southbrook Farm, Buckland-in-the-Moor	653234
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