

THE RALEIGH MISSION COMMUNITY

OUR VISION: "To know and worship God, to show his love by reaching out into the community and welcoming all into his church."



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Sunday 18th April – Easter 3

Rev'd Martin Jacques will be presiding at St. Peter's this Sunday and the Reverend Karen Young will be presiding at All Saints and St. Michael's.

Thought for the day

My spiritual director said to me this week "when you are feeling down find solace in the psalms" and when I saw the psalm (number 4) set for this Sunday it spoke directly to my heart as things sometimes do. I'm sure everyone has had the experience of reading something familiar, perhaps for the umpteenth time and yet suddenly being struck by something or noticing something as if for the first time. This happens a lot when reading the scriptures. Unscheduled moments of insight and recognition. This happened to me on reading psalm four. It is as if God is speaking directly to your heart by his Spirit. I'm sure many can attest to that experience.

Psalm 4

¹ Answer me when I call, O God of my right!

You gave me room when I was in distress.

Be gracious to me, and hear my prayer.

² How long, you people, shall my honour suffer shame?

How long will you love vain words, and seek after lies? *Selah*

³ But know that the Lord has set apart the faithful for himself;
the Lord hears when I call to him.

⁴ When you are disturbed, ^[a] do not sin;
ponder it on your beds, and be silent. *Selah*

⁵ Offer right sacrifices,
and put your trust in the Lord.

⁶ There are many who say, 'O that we might see some good!
Let the light of your face shine on us, O Lord!'

⁷ You have put gladness in my heart
more than when their grain and wine abound.

⁸ I will both lie down and sleep in peace;
for you alone, O Lord, make me lie down in safety.

We pray for all who are ill: Rosie Smith, David Beagley, John Heavens, Philip Ringrose, Glenys Callaghan, Gillian Andrews.

Recently deceased: David Scott, Shirley Williams.

Annual Remembrance: Kathleen Cooper, Norman Moss, Elizabeth Attewell, Kathleen Robbins, John Lynn, Ronald Green, Dorothy Teed.

The BRF booklets have arrived, and the cost for this year's subscription is £14.25.

Will you please pay by cheque this year, payable to Bible Reading Fellowship. I will be available after the 10.a.m. services at St Peter's. If you prefer, we can exchange booklets and cheques via the pigeonholes. Judith Aplin.

Free Will Offering envelopes for St.Peter's: The new numbered boxes are now available for collection at the back of the Church and if anyone would like to use this convenient method of donating to St.Peter's Church, please let me know. I can also supply a standing order form for those wishing to save themselves the trouble of hunting around for cash every week!

Important reminder to everyone – please advise me if you have signed a Gift Aid form in the past and no longer pay any tax. Also if you have changed address recently. Judith Stewart-Young



Dear friends of the Exmouth Food Bank,
Our Food Bank relies on the goodwill and support of local people. We can't do this without you! Over 80 per cent of food distributed by us is donated by the public. That is why your food donations are

absolutely vital to our ability to give everyone referred to us a balanced and nutritious supply of food. Help us to balance our stock by donating the foods listed on our priority list:

- Tinned Rice Pudding
- Long- Life Juice or Bottles of Squash
- Long-Life Milk
- Tinned Vegetables (eg. Carrots, Peas, Sweetcorn, Mushrooms)
- Packets of Custard
- Boxed, Tinned or Packet Potatoes
- Tinned Fruit (eg. Fruit Cocktail, Pineapple, Peaches)
- Toilet Rolls

We have just started sending out fresh fruit and vegetables and we will see what people like and adapt this over time. We also send out fresh bread with every parcel. Toiletries, feminine hygiene products, nappies, baby formula, cleaning products and pet food are also provided upon request and subject to availability. First time clients have included those made newly redundant in the hospitality sector and awaiting their first universal credit payment. We have seen more families with children needing our help, parents facing increased food bills due to loss of free school meals; families with both parents furloughed and unable to meet their living costs on their reduced income. In March we delivered parcels to 219 families and fed 506 people. Now with the lockdown lifting and children back to school hope is on the horizon. We are so grateful to the local community and to our volunteers for their support. It has been humbling to see so many people working together to serve their neighbours in need. While this has been a terrible time in many ways, the kindness and generosity of the human spirit has been much in evidence – and we have been genuinely moved by your support.

Please continue to take your donations to the Co-op, Tesco or Spar shops in Budleigh Salterton or send monetary donations by cheque made payable to "Salvation Army, Exmouth Corps" and marked "Community Larder" on the reverse. Their address is: The Salvation Army Hall in Sheppard's Row just off the Exeter Road in Exmouth EX8 1PW. Thank you so so much!

Collect: Risen Christ, you filled your disciples with boldness and fresh hope:

strengthen us to proclaim your risen life and fill us with your peace, to the glory of God the Father.

First Reading: Acts 3: 12-19.

When Peter saw it, he addressed the people, 'You Israelites, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we had made him walk? The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our ancestors has glorified his servant Jesus, whom you handed over and rejected in the presence of Pilate, though he had decided to release him. But you rejected the Holy and Righteous One and asked to have a murderer given to you, and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. And by faith in his name, his name itself has made this man strong, whom you see and know; and the faith that is through Jesus has given him this perfect health in the presence of all of you.

'And now, friends, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. In this way God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, that his Messiah would suffer. Repent therefore, and turn to God so that your sins may be wiped out,

In this speech given to the witnesses to the healing of a lame man, Peter attributes the healing to the name of Jesus whom he calls "the author of Life" and places Jesus firmly within the Jewish revelation. Jesus is the glorious servant of the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. It is the author of life alone that has the power and authority to give, sustain and restore fullness of life.

Second Reading: 1 John 3: 1-7.

See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

Everyone who commits sin is guilty of lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. You know that he was revealed to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. No one who abides in him sins; no one who sins has either seen him or known him. Little children, let no one deceive you. Everyone who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous.

John here appears to contradict himself with purporting to uphold the sinlessness of believers when he had already said in chapter 1 verse 8. "Those who say they have no sin deceive themselves". You could say that what we have is the reality of the situation clashing headlong with the aspiration that we are all automatically perfected. But of course, while we all sin, our righteousness is "reckoned to us" by God – declared righteous even when we are not as Paul says in Romans 4.

Gospel Reading: Luke 24:36-48.

While they were talking about this, Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, 'Peace be with you.' They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. He said to them, 'Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have.' And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, 'Have you anything here to eat?' They gave him a piece of broiled fish, and he took it and ate in their presence.

Then he said to them, 'These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.' Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, 'Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things.

Luke is not interested in Paul's assertions of "spiritual bodies" (1 Corinthians 15:4) and asserts in accordance with classic Jewish thought that the resurrection is very physical. Our whole created selves are raised in a very physical new earth. That juxtaposition only serves to deepen the mystery of the resurrection. The risen Jesus of course subsequently does vanish. Trust that the author of life cannot die, and in whatever form it takes, we are also raised – we are risen indeed.



Save the date – 26th June – RMC Garden party

As long as the current rate of progress continues, on the 21st June it is projected that all restrictions will have been rescinded in the UK, and all of us will have had two jobs. I propose a grand RMC celebration garden party at the vicarage. It'll be free, and while we are never without a bottle or two at the vicarage, if people could bring a bottle that would be great.

If our ladies (or gents!) could also organise cakes, all we'd need to do is pray for the sun to shine. I propose a 3.30pm start time, simply because I have a wedding at St. Peter's at 2pm! All in favour – say aye. I am looking forward to it already.

The prayer for today. French theologian and mystic, Pierre Teilhard de Chardin's writings were often complex but this prayer is perfectly straightforward.

Grant me to recognise in others Lord God the radiance of your own face. Amen



St Peter's Budleigh Salterton

Sunday 18 th April	Holy Communion	8.00
	Holy Communion Hymns: 364 It's a thing most wonderful. 66 Be thou my vision. Voluntary: Noel Novelet – Malcolm Archer	10.00
Wed. 21 st April.	Holy Communion	9.30
Sunday 25 th April	Holy Communion	8.00
	Holy Communion	10.00

For anyone wanted to make a donation to St Peter's Church, Tony Gray will be able to relive you of your money as a contactless payment as from Sunday 28th March. Thank you so much for your generosity.

All Saints, East Budleigh



Sunday 18 th April	Holy Communion	9.30
Tuesday 20 th	Morning Prayer	9.30
Sunday 25 th April	Holy Communion	9.30

St Michaels, Otterton



Sunday 18 th April	Holy Communion	11.00
Thursday 22 nd April	Morning Prayer	9.30
Sunday 25 th April	Holy Communion	11.00

Dates for your diary

All Saints East Budleigh APCM	Sunday 9 th May	In the church following the morning service
St Peter's APCM	Sunday 16 th May	By zoom: please contact Christopher on 01395 444381/ c.g.briscoe@gmail.com . for details
St Michael's APCM	Sunday 23 rd May	12.15 in St Michael's church

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