

Time to reflect

We are probably aware that the beginning of the Jesus stories are all a bit different. Gabriel appears to Joseph in one gospel and Mary in another; the Shepherds and the “kings” story appear in different gospels and so on. I wonder whether we are really aware that the variations are also found at the end, too? Jesus appears all over the place; in the garden, in the upper room, on the beach, on the road. And, in today’s gospel, at the end of Mark... he doesn’t appear at all. Instead we read about some women so freaked by their experience that they end up doing nothing. It’s hardly the powerful piece of storytelling to get people to follow Jesus, is it?

Or is it? It is not intriguing that this story ends with dithering women yet here we are, 2,000 years later, reading this story? At some point it appears that at least one of these women calmed down enough to tell someone else about the experience and to tell them with sufficient sense of awe and wonder and faith and grace that the presence of Christ shone out, so that their conversation partner also found themselves intrigued by the story, drawn towards the person of Jesus, entranced by the possibility that Resurrection is a reality.

The story ends with an odd phrase “*for they were afraid*”. Afraid of what? Afraid that their dalliance with Jesus might turn out to be real? Afraid that faith might stir up the soul and lead who knows where? Afraid that their safe, modest lives might erupt in love for Jesus and that a vocation to follow him might disturb their comfort zone. I wonder whether you also might be afraid that this faith this is true too?

Worship and Activities this week

Today	5.00pm	Office Hour
	6.30pm	Service of Readings, Prayer & Music for Easter Day
Mon	9.30am	Morning Prayer
	1.00pm	“In-house” @ House on the Rock
Tues		Mothers’ Union meeting has been moved to the 10th April.
Wed	11.00am	Holy Communion
Thurs	9.30am	Morning Prayer
	10.30am	Tiddlers @ Blackburne Hall
	12.45pm	Holy Communion
Fri	7.00pm	NO LUNCHTIME CONCERT No Choir School Full Choir Practice

Next Week: 2nd Sunday of Easter 8th April

	8.00am	Said Holy Communion
	9.30am	Short PCC meeting @ Church Hall
	10.00am	Parade Eucharist & Thanksgiving (No Sunday School)
	12 noon	Easter Lunch @ £5.00
	5.00pm	Office Hour
	6.30pm	Evensong

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Bury Parish Church

Easter Day

1st April 2018

www.buryparishchurch.com

We welcome you and hope you enjoy being with us. If you’re not familiar with our services, don’t worry. We follow a written order of service and at times will tell you which page we’re on.

We particularly welcome the family and friends of **Henry Little** who is be baptised this morning.

We also welcome all children in church. If your child gets restive in church, don’t be afraid to get up and move around if this helps. There is a toilet at the back of church. There are also activity bags at the back of Church.

7.15am Dawn Eucharist @ Rectory
President: Rhiannon Jones, As’t Rector

8.00am Said Holy Communion
President: Julian Heaton, Rector

10.00am Easter Eucharist, Baptism and Renewal of Vows
President: Julian Heaton, Rector
Preaching: Julian Heaton, Rector

Hymns:

Shown on Order of Service

Motets:

Shown on Order of Service

6.30pm Easter Carol Service
Minister: Rhiannon Jones, As’t Rector
Preaching: Rhiannon Jones, As’t Rector

Readings and Anthems:

Shown on Order of Service

Cornerstone

Breaking down walls. Building bridges. Creating shelter. Being God’s people in Bury

Today's Readings

The Collect

God of glory,
by the raising of your Son
you have broken the chains of death and hell:
fill your Church with faith and hope;
for a new day has dawned
and the way to life stands open
in our Saviour Jesus Christ. **Amen**

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

(Acts 10:34-43)

Peter began to speak to them: "I truly understand that God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ - he is Lord of all. That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark *(Mark 16: 1-8)*

Glory to You, O Lord

When the sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint Jesus. And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. They had been saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?" When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back. As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man, dressed in a white robe, sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed. But he said to them, "Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him. But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see Him, just as he told you." So they went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

This is the Gospel of the Lord

Praise to You, O Christ

Contact Details

Baptisms, Blessings, Weddings.

Speak to any of the clergy after the service. They will be at the back of church. Spot the dog collar! Our monthly Parish Magazine has a full list of contact details for clergy and organisations on the inside of the back page. For inclusion on the weekly pew sheet: please email: bpc.office@tiscali.co.uk by *Wednesday please.*
Tel 0161 764 2452

Easter Lunch on the 8th April

Tickets are now on sale from Keith Sedman for the Easter lunch at £5.00. Please note that this is on the 8th April. Get your ticket early to avoid disappointment!

Black Dyke Band Concert

The Black Dyke concert is taking place on Thursday 19th April at 7.30 pm. Ticket price is £12.00 and 16 and under £6.00 and can be purchased from The House on The Rock coffee/book shop, Bury Parish Church. Telephone 0161 763 7336 or on line from www.buryparishchurch.com/blackdykeband.

Request for New Members on the PCC

We are looking for new members to join the PCC. This is not an arduous task as the PCC normally only meet about 5 times a year and this is in the evening. There are nomination forms on the Church Notice-board or you wish to find out more, please speak to Hilary Ankers, the PCC Secretary or to Julian, the Rector.

Dates for Diary

Sunday 15 April

Annual Parochial Church Meeting in the Church Hall after 10am worship

Sunday 29 April

11.30am Gallipoli Service

Memorial Anniversary

Please see the April magazine for details of the anniversary names for the coming week.