

Time to reflect

A camel passing through the eye of the needle?
Feeding five thousand with five loaves and two fish?
all Jerusalem turning out for Jesus' entry? We are used to biblical hyperbole, of ideas being exaggerated for effect, to cause us to pause and look and think, to bend our imaginations out of shape.

So the idea of all Jesus' followers pooling everything should not fool us (see Acts readings over), should not make us think that this is early communism, does not offer us a new economic blue print. But it should make us ask what we are meant to take about from this passage, should make us look at our own practice of discipleship. And, if it does, we might think something like this.

This community were generous, generous to a fault. Their instincts were to support the vulnerable, to side with the frail, to give before receiving. This community worked out that Jesus' ministry was about visibly shifting the balance of focus and concern towards the poor, to prioritise the weak. The following two stories (Barnabas and Ananias and Sapphira) portray the generous and the self-absorbed Christian. Go read.

Further more this community knew each other, worked together for the common good, had focus and vision and purpose. This community attracted new members because it embodied a compelling, active, compassionate spirituality.

Imagine what our ministry at BPC would be like if we were know as a generous, focussed, compassionate spirit-filled community? What impact we could make.

Worship and Activities this week

Today	5.00pm	Office Hour
	6.30pm	Evening Prayer
Mon	9.30am	Morning Prayer
	1.00pm	"In-house" @ House on t' Rock
Tues	7.00pm	Holy Communion followed by the Mothers' Union meeting
Wed	11.00am	Holy Communion
Thurs	9.30am	Morning Prayer
	10.30am	Tiddlers @ Church House
	12.45pm	Holy Communion
Fri	12.30pm	Lunchtime Concert by Geoffrey Haydock & friends (clarinettists) & Penelope Smith (piano) No Choir School
	7.00pm	Full Choir Practice

Next Week: 3rd Sun Easter 15th April

8.00am	Said Holy Communion
8.40am	Adult Sunday School
10.00am	Parish Eucharist & Sunday School
12 noon	APCM @ Church House
5.00pm	Office Hour
6.30pm	Evensong

Collects from *Common Worship: Services and Prayers for the Church of England*; *Common Worship: Pastoral Services*; *The Christian Year: Calendar, Lectionary and Collects 2000 The New Revised Standard Version (Anglicised Edition)*, copyright 1989, 1995 by the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

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

Bury Parish Church

Second Sunday of Easter

8th 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 also **welcome 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 is a children's area at the back of Church.

8.00am Said Holy Communion
President: Rhiannon Jones, As't Rr

10.00am Parade Eucharist & Thanksgiving
President: Julian Heaton, Rector
Preaching: Julian Heaton, Rector
Hymns:

160; 149 (part 3); 412; 193; 166

Motets:

Healey Willan: Rise up, my Love
Simon Lindley: Now the green blade riseth

6.30pm Evensong
Minister: Julian Heaton, Rector
Hymns:

568; 240; 140

Psalm: 85 (pg. 453-454)
Wisdom 9. 1-12 (pg. ?)
Galatians 4. 1-5 (pg. 977)

Responses: Ayleward

Anthem: John Goss:

If we believe that Jesus died and rose again

Cornerstone

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

Today's Readings

The Collect

Risen Christ,
for whom no door is locked, no entrance barred:
open the doors of our hearts,
that we may seek the good of others
and walk the joyful road of sacrifice and peace,
to the praise of God the Father. **Amen**

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

(Acts 4:32-35)

The whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common. With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold. They laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John (*John 20:19-31*)

Glory to You, O Lord

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." After he said this, he showed them His hands and His side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said

to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained. But Thomas [who was called the Twin], one of the twelve, was not with "Unless I see the mark of the nails in His hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in His side, I will not believe." A week later His disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." Thomas answered Him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen me and yet have come to believe." Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of His disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in His name.

This is the Gospel of the Lord

Praise to You, O Christ

Dates for Diary

Sunday 29 April

11.30am Gallipoli Service

2.00pm St George's Day Service

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.

APCM Reports

These will be available soon on the Website. Can we ask those who have the capacity to download and print out their own copies of the report? And a huge thanks to all those who have contributed to the life of the parish.

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 or Rhiannon, our clergy team.

Thanksgiving for the Gift of a Child

What name have you given this child?
His/her name is N.

**May they learn to love all that is true,
grow in wisdom and strength
and, in due time, come through faith and
baptism to the fullness of your grace;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

We share the Stories of Jesus

Receive this Gospel.
Hear God's word with us.

Learn and tell its stories.
Rejoice in its good news.

Discover its mysteries.
Honour its commandments.

May God's life-giving word be sweeter to you than honey and lead you in the Way of Christ.