

Time to reflect

We are slowly having to learn to be sophisticated with what people tell us; to sift, to check other sources, to pause before reacting. Is this 'doubt'? or is this a reasonable way to inhabit our world?

We are not the first generation to succumb to 'pleasure overload' and the suppression of critical faculties. The Roman Emperors used to keep the unemployed and unemployable citizens of Rome quiet with a diet of free bread and circuses. Our minds are suppressed with a heavy overdose of media, sport and alcohol. It's a 'Brave New World'.

I suspect we have lazily fallen into a sort of credulous mindset that believes in almost anything and have only recently woken up to the fact that people will happily manipulate us for their own ends. Now we are simply suspicious of everyone and everything.

So our Easter stories should appeal to us now in ways that perhaps former generations didn't quite get. For these stories are full of suspicion and uncertainty and doubt; Mary Magdalen doesn't recognise the guy she'd had an intense encounter with, women flee in fear, Thomas doesn't believe his mates, Peter and the beloved disciple entirely forget everything they've ever heard Jesus say. The disciples don't believe each other, they don't believe "men in white", they don't even, as today's gospel tells us, believe Jesus. Or don't immediately. Faith takes time. And actually, it takes time after time, moment by moment movement from distrust to doubt to questioning to belief. So how's your faith today?

Worship and Activities this week

Today	12 noon	APCM @ Church Hall
	5.00pm	Office Hour
	6.30pm	Evensong
Mon	9.30am	Morning Prayer
	1.00pm	"In-house" @ House on t' Rock
	7.30pm	Youth Group @ Blackburne Hall
Wed	11.00am	Holy Communion
	7.00pm	Study Group @ Ashton Room
Thurs	9.30am	Morning Prayer
	10.30am	Tiddlers @ Church House
	12.45pm	Holy Communion
	7.30pm	Black Dyke Concert. Tickets £12.00. (See overleaf)
Fri	12.30pm	Lunchtime Concert by Antonio Persak (classical guitar). Admission £5.00
	4.00pm	Choir School
	7.00pm	Full Choir Practice

Next Week: 4th Sun of Easter 22nd April

8.00am	Said Holy Communion
10.00am	Parish Eucharist & Sunday School
5.00pm	Office Hour
6.30pm	Choral Evensong

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

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.

Bury Parish Church

Third Sunday of Easter

15th 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: Julian Heaton, Rector

10.00am Parish Eucharist

President: Ian McVeety, Hon Assist't

Preaching: Julian Heaton, Rector

Hymns: 145; 142; 432; 320; 628

Motets:

Richard Shephard:

The Easter Song of Praise

H. Walford Davies:

O sons and daughters

6.30pm Evensong

Minister: Rhiannon Jones, Assoc R'tr

Hymns: 325; 12; 162

Psalm: 142 (pg. 529)

Deuteronomy 7. 7-13 (pg. 136)

Revelation 2. 1-11 (pg. 1028)

Responses:

Richard Ayleward

Anthem:

John Rutter:

Christ the Lord is Risen Again!

Cornerstone

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

Today's Readings

The 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. **Amen**

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

(Acts 3. 12-19)

Peter 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 his 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."

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke *(Luke 24. 36-48)*

Glory to You, O Lord

While the eleven and their companions were talking about what they had heard, 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."

This is the Gospel of the Lord

Praise to You, O Christ

Dates for Diary

Sunday 29 April

11.30am Gallipoli Service
3.00pm St George's Day Service

Request for New Members on the PCC

We are looking for new members to join the PCC. The PCC normally meet about 5 times a year and this is in the evening. There are nomination forms on the Church Noticeboard or you wish to find out more, please speak to Hilary Ankers, the PCC Secretary or to Julian or Rhiannon, our clergy team.

It's not too late to offer your name, your wisdom and your ministry.

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.

Memorial Anniversary

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

World War 1 Armistice in Bury

There will be a meeting on Monday 16th April at 12 noon at the Rectory to give serious thought as to how we are going to make our Church a worthy space for people to reflect on and observe this moment in our nation's and world history. Are you able to help?

If you can make this meeting, could you please bring sandwiches, diaries, ideas and enthusiasm.

If you wish to be part of this discussion group, but unable to attend on the 16th, would you please let Julian know.