

## News for the Pews

Date: 9<sup>th</sup> April 2023

Sunday: Easter Sunday



**Alleluia! Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

### News and Views

At our final Lent course this week on “holy habits” we looked at how Jesus continued to be generous to others while under tremendous pressure himself as he approached Jerusalem and the cross: how he washed his disciples feet; didn’t publically denounce Judas by name; continued to praise God; didn’t condemn the disciples for falling asleep when he asked them to keep watch; healed the ear of the high priest’s servant; comforted the women along the way to Golgotha; promised a place in heaven for the thief beside him on the cross; forgave those who executed him and commended his mother Mary and friend John to each other as he died.

The commentary for the session said that “Someone once described love as grace under pressure. On several occasions in the Holy Week narratives, we see this grace at work in Jesus. One of the hallmarks of those who are devoted followers of Jesus is the way they are generous towards others, even when they are under the most intense pressure or experiencing the most severe suffering.” Something to ponder.

### Events for the week

Monday 10<sup>th</sup> April – Easter Fair from 2 to 4pm at St. John the Baptist Church, Lower Shuckburgh

Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> April – my leaving party from 3pm in Stockton Church – please let Wendy Turner know if you plan to come

### Looking ahead

Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> April – The Gathering with Bishop Christopher at 10.30am at St. Michael’s Church, Stockton

### Services next Sunday – 16<sup>th</sup> April – Easter 2:

10.30am – CW Holy Communion by extension at St. Lawrence’s Church, Napton

10.30am – Morning Worship at St. Leonard’s Church, Priors Marston

4.00pm – Messy Church at St. Lawrence’s Church, Napton

6.00pm – Easter Carols at St. Mary’s Church, Priors Hardwick

Bible readings for the week are: Acts 2:14, 22-32 and John 20:19 - end

### And finally

At the Chrism service for Maundy Thursday at the Cathedral, we heard the message of Peter (1 Peter 2:4-10). He says “Come to Jesus .... and like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house.... You are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvellous light.” Today, this includes the whole membership of the body of Christ – his living Church.

We then sang Bernadette Farrell’s beautiful hymn, which includes these lines: “Longing for shelter, many are homeless. Longing for warmth, many are cold. Make *us* your building, sheltering others, walls made of living stone. Many the gifts, many the people, many the hearts that yearn to belong. Let us be servants one to another, making your Kingdom come.” Amen.

God bless,  
Gillian

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(For more details of events and diary dates, see our website: [www.thebridgesgroup.org.uk](http://www.thebridgesgroup.org.uk) or the parish magazines)