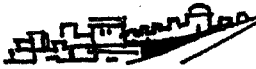


Deane Parish Magazine

April



2006



Parish Diary

April 2 Lent 5

9.00 a.m. Holy Communion (Common Prayer)

10.30 a.m. Family Parade Service

6.00 p.m. Holy Communion

April 9 Palm Sunday

9.00 a.m. Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer)

10.30 a.m. Service of the Word

6.00 p.m. Service of the Word

Easter Services

April 13 Maundy Thursday

7.30 p.m. Agape Supper (see details below)

April 14 Good Friday

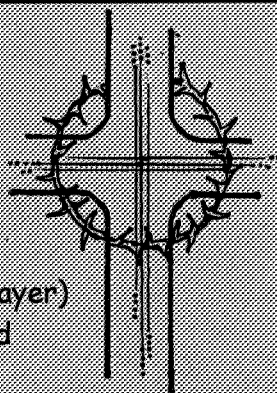
10.30 a.m. Service of Meditation

April 16 Easter Day

9.00 a.m. Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer)

10.30 a.m. Family Service followed by shortened form of Holy Communion

6.00 p.m. Easter Praise with other churches in the area



April 23 Easter 2

9.00 a.m. Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer)

10.30 a.m. Family Communion

6.00 p.m. Holy Communion

April 30 Easter 3

9.00 a.m. Holy Communion

10.30 a.m. Praise Service

6.00 p.m. Service of the Word

Readings at 9.00 and 6.00

April 2 Numbers 21:4-9; John 3:14-21

April 9 Jeremiah 31:31-34; Mark 14:1-15, 47

April 16 Acts 10:34-43; John 20:1-18

April 23 Acts 4:32-35; John 20:19-31

April 30 Acts 3:12-17; Luke 24:36b-48

Text
emboldened is
sermon passage

The Rector Writes

What's so important about Easter?

Two thousand years ago, in the Middle East, an event occurred that permanently changed the world. Because of that event history was split. Every time you write a date you are using the resurrection of Jesus Christ as the focal point.

What's so important about Easter? It's important because it proved that Jesus was who he claimed to be. He was God in the flesh, and he came to earth to save us.

Three events occurred in dramatic succession on that Easter weekend: the trial of Jesus, then the death of Jesus, and finally the resurrection of Jesus. Let's look at each of those events and their implications.

Although we often speak of the trial of Jesus there were actually six trials. In that one night he was brought before Annas, Caiaphas (the high priest), the Sanhedrin (the religious High Court), Pilate (the governor of Jerusalem), Herod (the governor of Galilee), and then back to Pilate. At the end of those six trials what did they actually accuse him of? Nothing. He had done no wrong. They brought in people to make up false charges, but they didn't stick. Finally they convicted him on one count: claiming to be the Son of God. That's the sole reason Jesus went to the cross. They didn't like that claim.

Everyone who has ever been presented with Jesus has already made some kind of decision about who he is. You either believe he's a liar, a lunatic, or he's the Lord. It can't just be, "He's a good teacher". He couldn't be just a good teacher because a good teacher would not say, "I'm God, and I'm the only way to heaven." A good person would not say that unless it was the truth.

Jesus claimed to be the Saviour of the world. In John 12:47 he is recorded as saying "I didn't come to judge the world. I came to save it." He allowed himself to go on trial so that there would be no doubt about who he was.

After a night of beatings and mocking, after being crowned with painful thorns, Jesus was crucified. Crucifixion is probably the most brutal and

torturous death penalty ever devised by men. It was so tortuous that the soldiers posted to guard the one being crucified would break the legs of the criminal to hasten death by suffocation.

In the case of Jesus they didn't have to break his legs, because he had already died. But to make sure they stuck a spear in his side.

Why did Jesus have to die? Because he alone was able to pay for your sins and mine. You deserved punishment, I deserved punishment, but Jesus paid the penalty for us.

After Jesus died they took his body down and put him in the tomb, and a giant millstone was set in front of the cave. The religious leaders - worried that Jesus' body might be stolen - asked for a Roman guard to be posted in front of the tomb. They didn't want him coming out! But of course he did!

You know the story. But its important to remember that Easter is not some memorial to a nice, good religious teacher who lived 2,000 years ago. Easter is a celebration of the fact that he is alive today.

Easter is the good news about Gods Son, Jesus Christ, who came as a human baby, born into King David's royal family line. Four historical records say he showed himself to 500 people at one gathering. Can you imagine witnessing his death and then seeing him alive three days later? What an amazing thing. When Jesus was hanging on the cross, the sceptics and the critics mocked him and said, "If you are the Son of God why don't you save yourself and come down from the cross? Why don't you show us that you are who you say you are?" but Jesus had something more spectacular planned for them. He had already said, "I'm going to be killed and buried, and after three days I will come back to life again to prove that I am who I say I am."

What does this mean to you today? In one sense Jesus Christ is still on trial. He's on trial in the heart and mind of every person who has not yet acknowledged him as the Son of God, the Saviour of the world.

Today each one of us sits in judgement on Jesus Christ. Just as Pilate asked, "What shall I do then with Jesus who is called the Christ?" so each one of us must decide whether he was who he said he was or not.

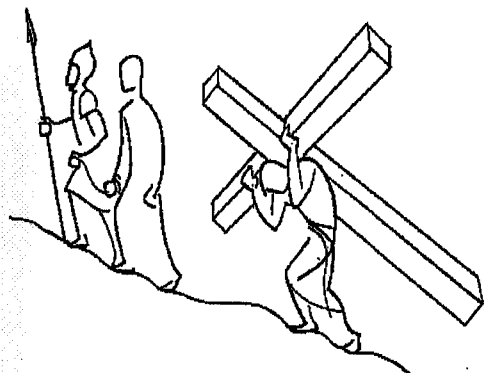
Holy Week

The week leading up to Easter begins with Palm Sunday on 9 April and is known as Holy Week.

Palm Sunday is the day when Jesus made his triumphal entry into Jerusalem. The gospels tell us that he had gone there to celebrate the Passover, and that when he entered the city, the crowds gave him a rapturous welcome, throwing palm fronds into his path. On this day churches worldwide will distribute little crosses made from palm fronds in memory of Jesus' arrival in Jerusalem.



The next highlight of Holy Week is **Maundy Thursday**, the day of the Last Supper when Jesus washed the disciples' feet. The ceremony of the 'washing of the feet' came to be part of the regular worship of the medieval church, symbolising the humility of the clergy. 'Maundy' is an unusual word. In the Middle Ages, church services were held in Latin. The opening words of a typical service on this day were based on the words of Jesus, 'A new command I give you.' In Latin this is 'mandatum novum do vobis'. The word 'mundy' is thus a corruption of the Latin 'mandatum' (or command). In England, in by-gone years, as an affirmation of humility, the monarch would wash the feet of a small number of his or her subjects. This has now been replaced by the ceremony of the 'Maundy money', in which the Queen distributes specially minted coins to the elderly at cathedrals throughout England.



Good Friday is the most solemn day in the Christian year. It is the day on which Jesus died on the cross.

Holy Saturday. The Eastern Orthodox churches hold the 'Paschal Vigil' - a late evening service which leads directly into the following Easter Day.

A question for Eastertide

What did Jesus have to say about his dying on the cross?

Jesus began to teach in the synagogues of Galilee, where the people heard him gladly. One day he stood up and read these words from the

The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to release the oppressed, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour.

For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through Him.
John 3:16,17

prophet Isaiah:

I am the bread of life. He who comes to me will never go hungry, and he who believes in me will never be thirsty.

John 6:35

I am the way, the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

John 14:6

Jesus was clear that He would have a personal relationship with those who responded to Him.

I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.... I know my sheep and my sheep know me.

John 10:11, 14

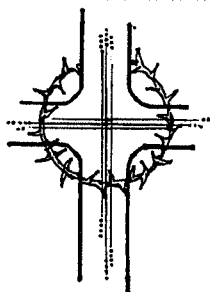
I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener.... Remain in me, and I will remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself. It must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me.

John 15:1ff

Jesus makes clear that anyone who accepts Him has a wonderful future. On the last night before He died, He reassured His disciples:

Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God, trust also in me. In my Father's house are many rooms; if it were not so, I would have told you. I am going to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me.

John 14:1-3



When a portrait is spoiled, the only way to renew it is for the subject to come back to the studio and sit for the artist all over again. That is why Christ came - to make it possible for the divine image in man to be re-created.

Athanasius of Alexandria AD 296 -

Newstalk for the Blind

The Talking Newspaper was first produced in Bolton in 1978. Since then there have been nearly thirteen hundred editions. The weekly recording is transferred to several hundred cassettes which are distributed to blind and partially-sighted people in the borough who listen to the news and then return their cassettes. It is quite a long operation involving sound engineers, producers, readers, distributors, with help from the Evening News and the Library Service, as well as a supporting administration.

I was a reader for many years and eventually became a producer when I had more time. There is a rota of producers and your turn comes round every two months. In advance you have to find two male and two female readers from a list of volunteers. During the week leading to the Sunday recording, the producer makes use of materials supplied by the Evening News and scrutinises the newspaper every day. A programme of about forty items, lasting an hour, is constructed and then duplicated in the Central Li-

Bolton Evening News

brary. We gather for the recording at the Sensory Centre, just off Chorley Street, on the Sunday afternoon and the process lasts about an hour-and-a-half. The readers record in pairs, male and female, and after each sequence of about ten items, one pair succeeds the other. After the initial recording, the engineer stays to prepare the tape for copying.

For the readers, whose turn might come round every six months, the session is quite entertaining. As a producer, I prefer a lot of short items rather than fewer longer ones, and spend some time abridging articles from the Evening News. This enables us to include references to local favourites like Sam Allardyce, Amir Khan, Peter Kay and Fred Dibnah, whose legend lives on, as well as to local enterprises, like the reconstruction of the bus-rail link and the re-

bravery and generosity, heroic efforts to raise money for charity, outstanding achievements of local people and schools. Churches, local history, youth groups, sports clubs and musicians always figure. Animals are popular. Only recently we recorded an item about the death of a popular guide dog and not long ago we reported the escape of Duracel, previously a battery hen, from our own Deane High School.

The reports and the publicity we include about local entertainment reflect the variety of life there is in a town as big as Bolton. It is a good place to live and our readers want to share their interest and enjoyment. At present we have an active list of volunteers, including some from our own Church; anyone else who is interested should catch me after the nine o'clock service or telephone 841947. Further volunteers are always welcome. At present the list of sound engineers is rather shorter than the list of producers and anyone with the technical knowledge, enthusiasm and experience would be more than helpful to the team. Some of our audience must live in Deane and we always hope that others will enrol to receive the tapes. If you know anyone who would like to, please speak to me. Our listeners are glad to have the programmes and I think the job is worth doing.

Resurrection

Siegfried Sassoon's biographical novel of his early life, 'Memoirs of a Foxhunting Man', ends with his account of life in the trenches in the first world war. In the closing paragraph he recalls that on one occasion he realised that it was Easter Day: **'Standing in that dismal ditch, I could find no consolation in the thought that Christ was risen.'** Late in life he journeyed into faith and this is what he wrote about that in April 1957:

No comfort came until I looked for light / Beyond the darkened thickets of my brain / With nothingness I strove. And inward sight / No omen but oblivion could obtain.

He spoke. He held my spirit in His hand. / Through prayer my password through the gloom was given. / **This Eastertide, absolved, in strength I stand, / Feet firm upon the ground. My heart in heaven.**

What a contrast! A priest who visited him on his deathbed wrote, '...for the first time I feel an actual enlargement from death, which is quite extraordinary.'

Eric Morgan has drawn our attention to a matter of which most of us will know very little -

Workers' Memorial Day

28th April 2006

Every year more people are killed at work than in wars. Workers' Memorial Day commemorates those workers and is held on 28 April every year. All over the world workers and their representatives conduct events, demonstrations, vigils and a whole host of other activities to mark the day. The day is intended to "remember those killed at work and to fight for the safety and health of the living". Unions are asked to focus on both areas, by considering memorials to all those killed through work but at the same time ensuring that such tragedies are not repeated.

A statement from the Communication Workers Union stresses, 'It is vitally important that government acts to introduce a new effective Corporate Manslaughter Law and new positive statutory health and safety responsibilities on Directors and Senior Managers without further delay.'

A great variety of activities are organised on Workers' Memorial Day throughout the country.

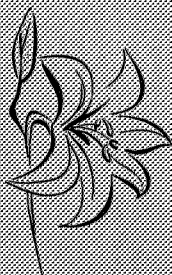
In **Rochdale**, at 8pm on 28th April, Save Spodden Valley plus G.M. Hazards Centre are holding a candle lit vigil outside Rochdale Town Hall to remember all those killed by asbestos and work generally and call for the highest levels of risk prevention to be applied to the proposed development of the T&N asbestos factory

In **Manchester** at 12 noon on Thursday 28th April the GMB is organising a service with Industrial Chaplains at the Peace Gardens behind the Town Hall when Regional Secretary Gary Jones will unveil a WMD stone moved from the GMB College. Two benches will also be dedicated.

NOTICE BOARD

Decorating the church for Easter

The church will be decorated for Easter on Saturday 15th April (Holy Saturday). Help would be very much appreciated. You do not need to be a skilled flower arranger to be of help.



Brownie Invitation

The Brownie Packs of the district are holding their annual Brownie Egg Service in 2006 at Deane Church on Monday 3rd April at 6.30pm. This is when the Packs collect chocolate eggs to donate to charitable organisations, the social services etc.

Everyone will be most welcome at the service.

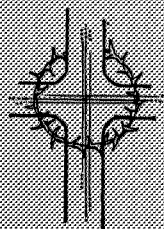
CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE MAGAZINE

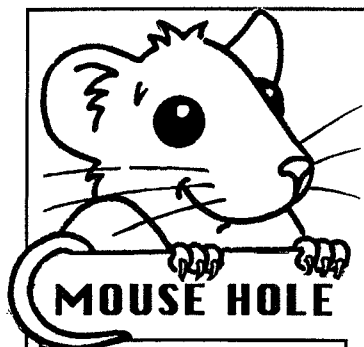
Thank you to Eric Morgan and Charles Winder, who contributed articles for this magazine. Please consider whether there is something you might like to contribute—about a church group, a testimony of how God has worked in your life, your work and your faith or some voluntary work you are involved in. Please let Elizabeth Plant have any contribution by the second Sunday of the month, as an email attachment (eplant@supanet.com) if possible, but if not, in any form convenient to you.

Wounds

O Saviour Christ, thou too are man;
Thou hast been troubled, tempted, tried;
Thy kind but searching glance can scan
The very wounds that shame would hide.

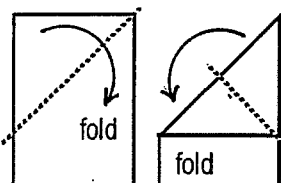
Henry Twells



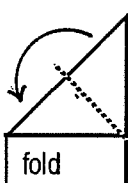


MOUSE HOLE

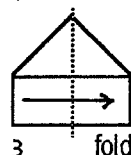
Fold-a-Cross



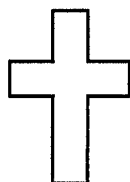
1



2



3



open out

Decorate
with
Easter
colours
and
patterns



cut

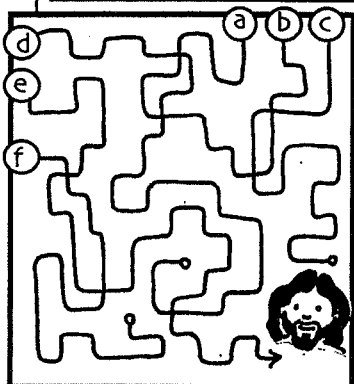
I **light** the way so you can see,
I **show** the path, just follow me.

I **guide** you on the way to go,
I **teach** you all you need to know.

I **rescue** you, I **set** you free,
I **love** you, just as God loves me.

I am the **way**,
the **truth**,
the **life**.

I am JESUS



Which way to Jesus?

Look up the Bible verses, fill in the blanks!



— I — — — — John 8:12

— A — — — — John 14:6

John 4:25-26

M — — — — —

T — — — — — John 14:6

John 10:11

H — — — — —

— — — — — E John 11:25

