

**"He is not here! He has risen! Remember how he told you,
while he is still with you in Galilee." (Luke 24:6)**

At the heart of the Christian faith is not a set of spiritual insights, religious practices or colourful myths, but actual historical events.

That is the claim of the New Testament writers. For them the historical events had occurred only a few decades previously. Paul writing to a church in Corinth in 53-55AD, around 20-25 years after the actual events, says that as he wrote there were still many alive who had witnessed the events (1 Corinthians 15:6).

Not that it was easy for people to believe such events could happen even then. Paul is writing to a church where some are questioning the possibility of anyone being resurrected from the dead. In response, Paul emphasises the historical reality of the seemingly impossible resurrection, pointing out that if it were not true, the whole Christian project was a terrible waste of time (15:12-18).

Yet, to be a Christian is not just to accept that the seemingly impossible happened, but to grasp its ongoing significance for our life today. It is an event that demands spiritual understanding and a personal response.

The resurrection shows us that Jesus is unique and special. It shows us that his death was not a tragic end, but an amazing sacrifice, that his teaching has an authority like no-one else's and that his promises can offer a certainty in life that cannot be found elsewhere. All of this is good news, but also a call to live in obedience to Jesus as our Lord and Saviour.

If through the uncertainty of the last two years your faith has drifted, then why not make this Easter the time to return to church and rediscover the significance of those foundational historical events.

Paul Worledge

This Sunday's Services on livestream:

[Easter Sunday, 11am](#)

Click the above link to access the livestream for this week's service. You can also use the link to watch the service at a later time.

Weekly Calendar

Thursday 14th

Daily Prayer (at St. Luke's Church) - 9:30-10:00am

Cafe4All (St. Luke's Church), Coffee and Chat for all - 10:00-11:30am.

Maundy Thursday Communion (St George's Church) - 6:30pm-7:30pm

Friday 15th

The Easter Story (St Luke's Church) - 10:30-11:15am

Good Friday Meditation (St. George's Church) - 12:00-3:00pm

Saturday 16th

Daily Prayer (St. George's Church) - 9:30-10:00am

Sunday 17th

Easter Day Service (St. Luke's Church), Luke 24:1-12 - 11:00am-12:00pm

Youth Initiative Led Service (St. Luke's Church) - 6:30pm-7:30pm

Monday 18th

As this is a Bank Holiday, there will be no daily prayer.

Tuesday 19th

Daily Prayer (St. George's Church) - 9:30-10:00am

Thursday 21st

Daily Prayer (at St. Luke's Church) - 9:30-10:00am

Cafe4All (St. Luke's Church), Coffee and Chat for all - 10:00-11:30am.

Friday 22nd

Play and Praise (St. Luke's Church Hall) – 10:00-11:30am

Saturday 23rd

Daily Prayer (St. George's Church) - 9:30-10:00am

Basic Safeguarding Training (St. Mark's Church) – 10:00am

Sunday 24th

Family Service (St. Luke's Church), Luke 24:1-12 - 11:00am-12:00pm

Youth Initiative (St. Luke's Church), 5:00pm-7:30pm

Christianity Explored (Dorothy Drive), 5:30pm-7:00pm

Prayer Requests

Be assured I will do my best to check that people are happy for the requests to be shared before including them. Please pray for...

- Family and friends of Mark (Kate Page's daughter's partner) who drowned in the sea trying to rescue his dog.
- Joy Smithers who is in hospital.
- David Perkins with a broken ankle.
- Michelle (Terry De Vere's wife) just starting chemotherapy.
- David Gill whose cancer has now spread to his throat.
- Mitch Styles that he will receive the help he needs.
- Ken Tipler that the pain from his bone cancer can be kept under control.

Please also continue to pray for: Flo Baldock, Jean Hann, Shirley Crabb, Joy Smithers, Nathan Court, Pauline Emptage, Collette Judge, Barb (Gloria's daughter's friend), Rita Ryan.

Basic Safeguarding Training

For those involved in work with our children or young people, there is an expectation that you undergo regular safeguarding training. This can be done online, but there is an opportunity to do it in person coming up at St. Mark's church in Ramsgate at 10am on Saturday 23rd April. If you would like to book a place then please contact Jess on 01843 592478 (apologies the number was wrong last week) or office@stlaurenceparish-ramsgate.org.uk.

Coming Soon: Can You Trust the Gospels?

On Tuesday evenings in May (10th, 17th, 24th, 31st) we are hoping to join with other churches in Ramsgate for some sessions with Robin Plant looking at the four Gospels: Matthew, Mark, Luke and John. More information to follow.

Electoral Roll and Annual Meeting

Our **Annual Meeting** this year will be on **Sunday 22nd May** after our main service. This is an important meeting where we can look back on 2021 to give thanks for all God has done and look

forward to what God may be doing amongst us in the coming months and years. It is also the meeting at which members of our Parochial Church Council and Church Wardens are elected.

In order to vote at the meeting, you need to be on our church electoral roll. If you have been attending the church for six months or more, are baptised and 16 years or over then we would encourage you to join **the electoral roll** if you are not on it already. Please pick up a form from the welcome desk at the back of church and return to James Patterson as soon as possible and by Sunday 1st May at the latest.

We will also be producing an Annual Report for 2020 before the meeting. For those who need to write reports for this, please email them to James Patterson (office@stlukesramsgate.org) also by Sunday 1st May.

Easter Services (14th to 17th April)

This year we will be sharing some of our Easter Services with St. George's. The Maundy Thursday Communion (6:30pm) and Good Friday Meditation (12:00-3:00pm) will be at St. George's church, whilst the Easter Story on Good Friday (10:30-11:15am) and Easter Sunday Youth Initiative Service (6:30pm) will be at St. Luke's. Each church will have their own Easter Sunday morning services at the normal Sunday service times. [Please see the website for more information.](#)

Easter Sunday Youth Initiative Service

On Easter Sunday, the 17th April, at 6pm in St Luke's church, Youth Initiative (YI) will be leading a service that will help us celebrate Easter as we think on the theme - How much are you worth?

Youth Initiative is the name of the group that meet weekly in term time and are aged 11-18 (with some additions). They are working hard at putting this Easter Sunday service together. There will be activities, worship, discussions and time for reflection based on the them of 'How much are you worth?' The service should be around 45 minutes and we will end our time together with light refreshments. All ages are welcome.

Plans for the Platinum Jubilee

We are planning to have a joint service at St. George's church on June 5th at 11am to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. This is part of a weekend of celebrations across the country. After the service we are hoping to hold a 'tea party' in the church grounds of St. George's.

If you would be interested in joining a team of people to help plan for this event. Then please see Paul as soon as possible.

Book to see the vicar:

If you would like to arrange to see Paul the vicar about anything, then please use this following link to book an appointment: <https://calendly.com/worldedge/meet-with-paul>

Links to Share:

Last Sunday's Sermon:

[The Crowd's Excitement \(Luke 19:28-40\)](#)

We love to hate rich people that seem to have behaved badly, but how does Jesus feel about them. In this climactic encounter in Luke's gospel Jesus meets Zacchaeus, a rich chief tax-collector, probably the most hated man in Jericho. How did Jesus respond to him?

Easter Activities for Children

Check out [this website](#) for some fun family activities for Easter.

Helping people return to church

The Pandemic and lockdowns have meant that a number of people have given up on attending church. This is something that happens all the time for all kinds of reasons and is always very sad. Yet perhaps there is hope that we can help them return through personal invitations. This article about research carried out in the USA is just as relevant for us here. [Read more...](#)

Finally, let's rejoice, because Christ is risen!

Yours in Christ,

Paul Worledge
(Vicar, St. Luke's Ramsgate)