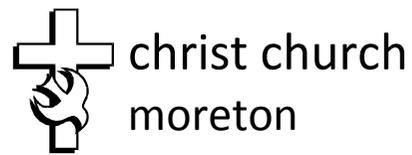


# April 2014 at



Dear friends at Christchurch

Over the next two weeks we will be celebrating the events surrounding the first Easter – Palm Sunday, when Jesus was cheered into Jerusalem as the new king, Maundy Thursday, when he met for his final meal with his disciples, Good Friday, when he was crucified, and Easter Day, when he rose again.

Throughout that amazing week, people constantly misunderstood who Jesus was. And today, many people both outside and inside churches, make just the same mistakes.

- The crowd on Palm Sunday thought that Jesus was a political leader – someone who could give them what they wanted. When Jesus didn't meet their expectations, they turned against him.
- Pilate seems to have been convinced that Jesus was innocent, but still condemned him, because it was the easiest thing for him to do. Commitment to Jesus would have been too demanding.
- Even the disciples were full of doubt – they had seen Jesus alive again, but didn't understand what that meant, so when he didn't meet them in Galilee, they went back to their boats, back to their old way of life.

And this Easter, there will be thousands of people who will repeat the same mistakes – rejecting Jesus because he doesn't do what they want, or believing in him, but not allowing it to change their lives, or else living as if Jesus hasn't really risen.

And there will be some who will recognise the truth of the Son of God killed for them, who will rejoice that he is still alive, and will bow to him as King, and make him the absolute priority of their lives.

Which group will you be in this Easter?

Yours in Christ

*Graham Cousins*

## **Regular weekly activities:**

Monday	-	9.30 am : Toddler Group
	-	1.00 pm : TLC
Tuesday	-	9.30 am : Toddler Group
	-	3.30 pm : S.O.S.
	-	6.00 - 8.00 pm Foodbank
Wednesday	-	1.00 pm : Needlecraft Group
	-	1.30 pm : Baby Bible Buddies
	-	5.15 pm : Rainbows
	-	5.45 pm Brownies
Thursday	-	9.45 am : Keep Fit
	-	11.00 am : Keep Fit
	-	1.00 pm : Craft Group
	-	5.30 pm : Brownies
Friday	-	9.15 am : Mothers 'n' Others
	-	7.00 pm : Bowls
	-	2.00 - 4.00 pm Foodbank

**PLEASE NOTE THAT ALL ACTIVITIES WILL CLOSE FOR THE EASTER HOLIDAYS EXCEPTING FOR TLC., MOTHERS 'N' OTHERS & CRAFT GROUP WHO WILL REMAIN OPEN BUT WILL CLOSE ON BANK HOLIDAY MONDAY & GOOD FRIDAY OPEN CHURCH WILL CLOSE FROM 21<sup>ST</sup> APRIL**



It's hard to believe that, out of the whopping 80 million chocolate Easter Eggs sold each year, not one of them mentions Jesus on the box. Until now that is.

The Real Easter Egg is the first and only Fairtrade chocolate Easter Egg to explain the Christian understanding of Easter on the box. It also supports charity and development projects. Several major supermarkets are stocking the Real Easter Egg. For information about where to get them, see their website – [www.realeasteregg.co.uk](http://www.realeasteregg.co.uk).

## CONFIRMATION

On Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> June Bishop Keith will be with us at 6.30 pm for a confirmation service.

Confirmation is a great opportunity for anyone who has either come to faith or has recommitted their life to Jesus to publicly mark that commitment to Jesus, and to commit themselves to serve him as part of Christ Church. Even if you have been confirmed in the past, it is possible to renew your baptismal vows in the service.

In the run up to the service we will be holding a 'Thinking about Confirmation' course. This will be on Thurs 15<sup>th</sup> May, Mon 19<sup>th</sup> May, Mon 2<sup>nd</sup> June & Mon 9<sup>th</sup> June – at 8.00 pm. If you feel that confirmation might be an appropriate step for you, do please speak to Graham.

### **NOT FOR SALE**

It is estimated that there are as many as 10,000 modern-day slaves across the UK. Parliament will be debating the Modern Slavery Bill during May. Christian Premier Radio are organising a petition urging the government to make sure that this bill outlaws slavery in this country. If you would like to sign the petition, copies are available on the Welcome Desk.

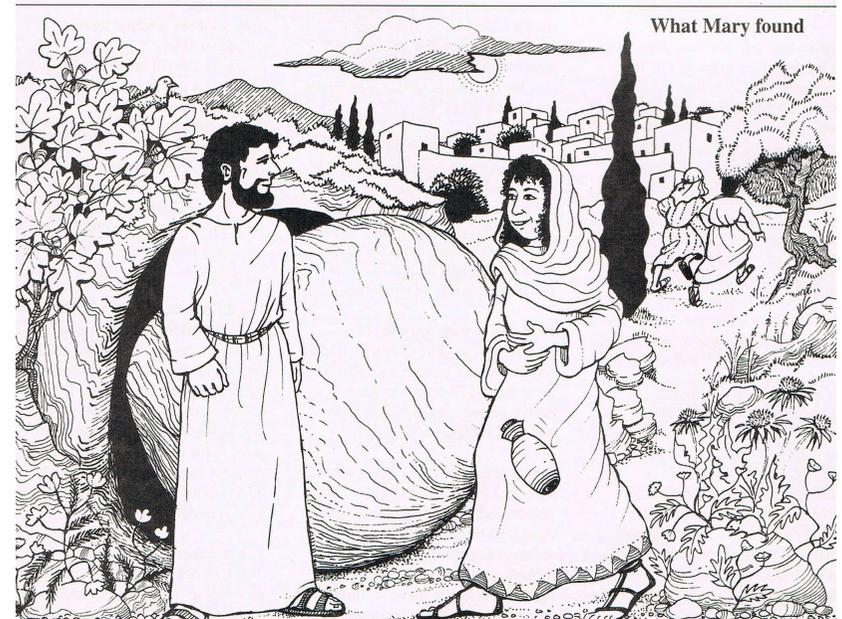
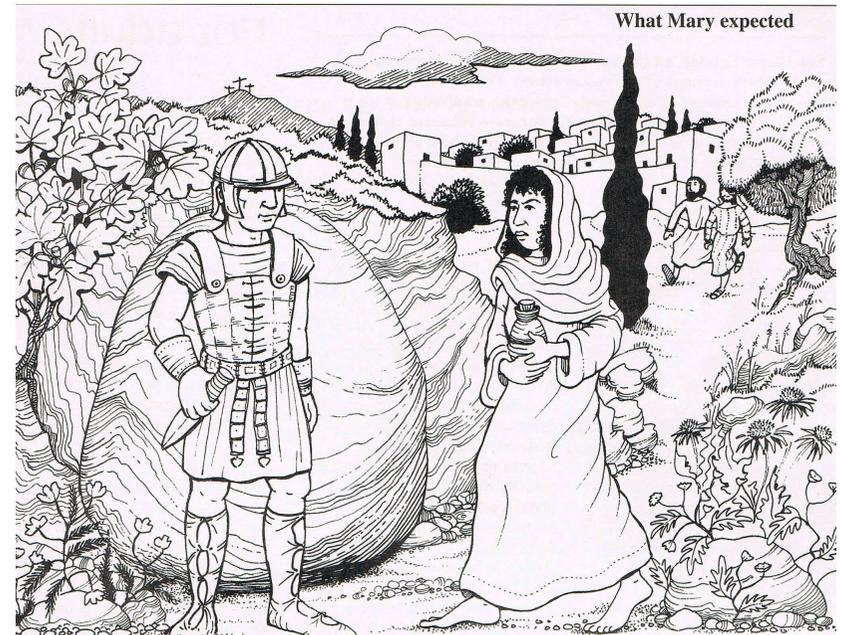
### **ADVANCED NOTICE**

The Archdeacon's visitation, for Church Wardens and Sides-people, will be held at Christ Church, Birkenhead on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> May, 6.30 pm.

### **STUART TOWNEND**

An evening with Stuart on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> May 7.30 pm (doors open 6.45 pm) at St Andrew's Church, Church Road, Bebington.  
Tickets (£15 adults and £12 concession).  
[www.standrewsbebington.org.uk](http://www.standrewsbebington.org.uk)  
Tel: 0151 201 7801.

## SPOT THE DIFFERENCE



The Resurrection changes everything. See how many differences you can find between the 2 pictures.