



Easter Service on Sunday 9th April 2023 at 11.15am

May the miracle of Easter bring you peace and joy!

Rev. Dr. Paul Singh JR

All Saints Episcopal Church

Ashgrove Terrace

Lockerbie, DG11 2BP

<https://lockerbieanglican.org/>

paulsinghir@gmail.com

01576204059

07721417204

ALL SAINTS EPISCOPAL CHURCH

LOCKERBIE



Newsletter

Easter Special 2023

Dear Friends,

Greetings to you all in the name of our Risen Lord!

Easter is a beautiful time of year where we continue to see evidence of new life all around us with sheep and lambs appearing in the sheds and fields.

We also have flowers filling both the hedgerow and garden with primroses, daffodils, pansies, forsythia, and the blossom of cherry trees bringing colour and life after the deadness of winter. It reminds us of a time of growth, renewal, and of the cycle of life beginning once again.

Real life reveals its strength and identity as it goes in line with the spirit of the life giver. In this season we shout “Hosanna” (God, save us now) by looking around us, with the feeling that we are in need of strength from the Life Giver to overcome all sufferings we go through. The image of “Jesus on a donkey” gives us enormous hope that Jesus is coming to our lives with “heavy lifting ways” to ease our burdens.

When we commemorated Jesus’ triumphal entry into Jerusalem with big crowds, it was a lovely opportunity to reflect on Jesus’ kingship as the King of kings, a suffering King. It is an invitation to walk with him to the Garden of Gethsemane (meaning “Oil Press”), where the invitation is to become vulnerable. If you feel that you are vulnerable, don’t run away from Christ, follow hard after Jesus. Watch and pray. Stay awake with Christ and feel how much he loves you. His love is well reflected in his prayer to God, “Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing.” He translated it on the Cross by sacrificing his life for us.

Christ has shown us that the way of the Cross is not the way of death; it is the way of life and glory. Let us therefore take up our daily crosses and follow our Lord and Saviour. Our journey doesn’t end on Calvary but is resurrection and eternal life. We are Easter people. We belong to the Risen Lord. May he grant you a most blessed and grace-filled Easter. May the Risen Lord fill your hearts and homes with his peace and joy. May he shower his graces upon all of us.

Rev. Dr. Paul Singh JR
Rector

The events of Holy Week and the celebration of the Resurrection on Easter Sunday should be for all Christians a time of renewal and reinvigoration but so many people find this period very hard to cope with. There are good

reasons for this. Holy Week exposes admirably the weaknesses of humanity and in general humanity doesn’t want to think about that unless it is forced to do so. Judas was happy at first to betray Christ for money until he saw the error of his ways. Those events were supposed to set us an example. However humanity has so often since then forgotten what we were to learn and many Christians still vie for superiority over others to improve their power and wealth. We see that in the Ukraine with Soviet Russia, a supposed Christian country led by a Christian Leader President Putin, determined to overrun Christian Ukraine whatever the human cost.

That is but one example of man’s inhumanity to man. Another issue with Easter is trying to explain the Resurrection itself. It is easy to say death was conquered and humanity saved. It is less easy to say that humanity learnt how to reform the world so that the world became a better place when we see how we not only fight each other but also fight with nature and gradually destroy Creation itself.

Having said all that, Easter is a crucial time for all of us whatever the odds against it may seem. Christ’s death on a Cross was not in vain, nor was the Resurrection. Holy Week and Easter shocked humanity into action to form the worldwide Christian Church. Easter meant Christ standing aside for the Holy Spirit to do much greater work through us than Jesus could ever have done. Holy Week and Easter still stand as symbols of resistance against wrongdoing. Not only that we are reminded of the existence of evil and the need to counter it by demonstrating in the way we live that good will always overcome bad.

The sceptics said many days ago that there was no possible way that a country like Ukraine led by a comedian for a President could possibly outwit the might and magnificence of the USSR and yet the underdog has succeeded in uniting so many countries to fight evil and to think about what values Christians should really stand for. Easter reminds us that Christianity is the most successful voluntary organisation in the world and that we do have the choice of belonging or not. Failure to belong often seems too many a wonderful opportunity to further self until events demonstrate how pursuit of selfish ambition can only end in disaster. The events of Holy Week and Easter are so momentous that they bring together all that Christians should have as their *raison d’être* and give hope to the hopeless.

Rev. Nick Mark

FINANCIAL REPORT

We suffered a burst pipe in the toilet during the heavy frosts and at the same time we had a long standing problem with the plumbing in the Vestry repaired, the cost of this totalled £327. We have also recently had the external door from the vestry repaired, the invoice is awaited. This door is 120 years old and due to water ingress through the panel joints the joiner recommended that the door could be near the end of its useful life.

A dehumidifier was purchased for the Church at a cost of £309 and we are grateful that a Vestry member donated the full cost.

Mainly thanks to Lynne our fundraising has made a good start to the year. The Christmas coffee morning raised £447, the Christmas drinks party at Rammerscales raised £824, the Ukrainian concert raised £88 and the craft fayre raised £364.

The deficit at the end of the financial year will be exceptionally large at around £13,000 although part of this arises from expenditure which was carried forward from last year and which was part funded from grants and donations. The deficit would have been greater but for a legacy of £3,821 received from the estate of the late Ann Fairn.

Church attendances have not fully recovered following the covid shut down and most Sundays attendance is in the high teens. This obviously impacts on our income although thankfully our reducing number of members support us very generously.

Ian Stewart

Treasurer

What turmoil we find ourselves in at Easter 2023. A lingering war in Ukraine, thousands of Ukrainians displaced, thousands of good soldiers dying on both sides whilst despotic rulers are godless and have no bounds to their dream of total control and unimaginable wealth.

I pray that the young will only notice the war on TV and in newspapers and think little of it.

Like myself, born in 1940, played in bomb shelters built in the middle of the road and watched in wonder at the barrage balloons glinting in the sun protecting the docklands from bombers and felt the excitement when a German fighter crashed on the local golf course and everyone come out of their houses to see the smoke.

But God carried on just as he does today; the barley and wheat seed germinates in the Spring sunshine, new leaves burst forth from the trees, the woodland changes colour and is full of the sound of birds and animals and lambs race each other across the fields.

Only those who have lost loved ones or have been displaced from their homes and country feel the deep hurt which comes from war.

We thank God for sparing us from the presence of war on our doorsteps and we must expect to be short of some foods and to pay more for almost everything else.

David Rose

The Heart of England

For our holiday this year we visited Nottinghamshire and Leicestershire. During our break we tried the doors of eighteen churches, fifteen of which we were admitted to and of those 15 three we managed to worship at.

First stop was St Lawrence's Morland for their mid-weekly Mass and to view their Saxon Tower. After coffee with our fellow worshippers, we moved onto the next village Bolton to see the Norman chancel. Our final travel break was at SS Mary's & Martin Blyth, a former Benedictine priory with a magnificent medieval painting of the Last Judgement.

Visiting the village of Car Colston, we admired St Mary's with a window by Kempe, depicting the arch-angels, it was after all St Michael's day. That evening at Southwell Minster evensong was beautifully sung by the choir. Onward to Lincolnshire and SS Peter & Paul's Belton, which was full of memorials to the local landowners the Brownlow Cust family.



Picture 1



Picture 2



Picture 3



Picture 4



Ukrainian Christmas Concert



Ester Craft



Picture 5

- 1 The ‘Bug Church’ at Car Colston, sheep also graze the churchyard.
- 2 Harvest Festival displays at Southwell Minster.
- 3 Sir Ninian Comper was responsible for the Reredos at St Mary Magdalene’s Newark.
- 4 St Mary’s Lutterworth are very proud to be the last church which the reformer John Wycliffe ministered at.
- 5 The only Victorian church we visited was St Mary’s at Clumber Park, the architect was Bodley.

**Paul Tofield
Kim Jackson**



Eco-Walk



Gardening



Christmas Coffee Morning



Notice

- Maundy Thursday Service** 6th April 2023 at 5.00pm
- Good Friday Walk of Witness** 11.00am from The Salvation Army
- Good Friday Service** 7th April 2023 at 2.00pm
- Easter Service** 9th April 2023 at 11.15am
- Taize Service** Thursday 20th April at 7.00pm