



In Touch

St Margaret's Church, Burnage

Easter 2020

Jesus - on the naughty step?



This story was sent in by one of our church members:

"One of my special memories is when our 4 yr old granddaughter put herself on the "naughty step". When asked why she had done that (she had been very good all morning), she replied "so I can go and be naughty." And she was! She went and took down one of my ornaments (strictly forbidden), and then felt very aggrieved when she was put back on the naughty step by grandma. The reaction was a predictable: "it's not fair!" After all, she had already done her punishment."

A sweet story.

Punishment is not chosen by us and we cannot store it up in advance of our next misdemeanour.

At Easter, we see Jesus doing something extraordinary.

He had many opportunities to leave Jerusalem but chose to stay and die in our place, he sat on the naughty step in our place.

In ways that are hard to express, he chose the cross so that we might know forgiveness for all the brokenness in us and the world. The way to God was open wide and by his resurrection, death was defeated as he was raised to life.

Jesus has sat on the naughty step so that we might be forgiven.

Now that is amazing grace!



St Margaret's Church Website - www.stmargaretsburnage.org.uk

Experience Easter

Peter Miller

What will you do on Easter Sunday?

Tuck into your chocolate eggs, enjoy a dinner with the family, or go for a walk in the Spring sunshine?

But what is Easter all about?

Maybe you've heard that Jesus died on a cross and later rose from the dead but what about the events leading up to that world-changing event? And why do some Christians call it 'Holy Week'?

At St Margaret's we are keen that everyone, people of faith and of no faith, learn the full story of the events which happened in that week over 2000 years ago. We organise 'Experience Easter' events for the local schools towards the end of term, when students are invited to engage with the Easter events in an interactive way. We follow Jesus during that week starting on Palm Sunday, the Sunday before Easter when Jesus rode



into Jerusalem on a donkey and the people waved palm branches. This was a sign to the Jews that He was their

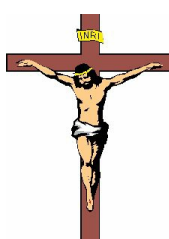
Messiah, coming as their king, but in great humility. Next we move to Maundy Thursday, the night that Jesus celebrated His last supper with His friends (we continue to remember this in our Communion services) and when Judas left to betray Jesus; we follow

Jesus to the Garden of Gethsemane

where He struggled to come to terms with what He was about to go through, and we learn that his friends ran away

and his best friend, Peter, denied that he ever knew Jesus.

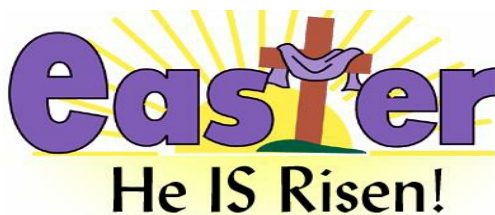
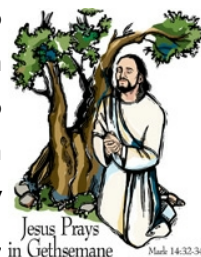
The next day, the day we call 'Good' Friday, is when we reflect on the awful



torture and death that Jesus suffered and try to get our heads round the fact that it was for us that He suffered and died. Death was not the end for Jesus,

and His resurrection from death offers us the hope of a future, even beyond death if we believe in Him and acknowledge that Jesus is Lord.

So, Easter is not just about chocolate, family celebrations, or even the coming of Spring. It is about everything that Jesus went through leading to that amazing resurrection morning.



Easter
He IS Risen!

Small Sins Really Matter

Bridget Wilkie.

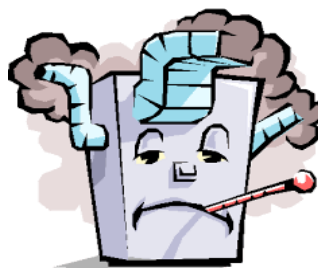
Last December my boiler broke down and, as I live in a retirement apartment in Burnage, it was a disaster as the problem caused the flat to fill with steam and consequently caused the fire alarm to go off at 2.30am!

I was devastated, especially when the fire engines arrived, causing even more havoc!



When I finally got the boiler engineers out, at great expense, they discovered it was a tiny part that had broken and needed replacing, but that tiny part had affected the whole boiler and disturbed the whole retirement complex.

This incident made me realise that the little sins in life are just as bad as the



big sins - they are all sin! A tiny fault in my boiler made it break down; in the same way even the smallest sin in our lives means that we are broken too.

Jesus came and died to fix our broken bits...and to get rid of our sin.

My boiler works fine now, and my flat is cosy and warm - but what about you?

You may feel that there is too much bad in your life and that you could never be mended.

The truth is that we have all been broken, some of us badly broken, even ready to be thrown away, but Jesus is able to fix even the worst of us and make us like new.

a b c

ABC (adults, babies and children) meet together at St Margaret's parish centre every Friday 9.45am - 11.30am (in term time only). The children play in a safe environment where the parents and carers have a chance to sit, chat and share over copious amounts of tea and toast.

For more information about ABC or any other activity at St Margaret's Church please visit our website: www.stmargaretsburnage.org.uk

Jesus my Hero...for more than one day. Graham Waite

How a local lad one day met his hero. Growing up, Graham Waite did all the “religion” that school dished out, but he left at 15 with no qualifications. Graham managed to get a job at the Excelsior Hotel at the airport in the kitchen. On June 7th 1973, the head chef told him to stay on late to help with a private party of 20 guests. To his utter surprise it was David Bowie and his band. At the age of 17 Bowie was Graham’s hero and so, risking his job, he asked David to sign the menu, which he did. What a day!



Graham went through a variety of jobs working at Wythenshawe and Tameside General hospitals and as chef manager at Schreiber, but he finished his working career at Fielden College where he worked for twenty five years. Then Graham entered into a dark and sad time in his life. Sadly, he had to face up to the illness of his parents and caring for them until their deaths. Things seemed to be, in his own words ‘so difficult and horrendous’ and nothing seemed to make much sense to him. To his wife, Linda’s, surprise one day, he told her that he was going to go to church. They had lived in Burnage for

over 20 years and had walked past St Margaret’s many times but had never been inside.



He was apprehensive walking down the path but upon entering he was completely overcome by the warm welcome he received.

‘It was so warm and friendly and I discovered a new sense of peace.’ After a short time Graham was invited to attend an Alpha Course (designed to explore and answer any questions that people have about Christianity).

It was on this course that Graham encountered someone who has become a new, permanent hero in his life - Jesus. Jesus is no longer just a name or someone from history, for Graham, and to all who call themselves His followers, Jesus is a real hero.

Graham handed his life’s problems over to Jesus and, although life still has its challenges, Graham knows that life is so much better with Jesus than without.

A Bible verse that Graham now holds dear... Matthew 11: 28-30

Jesus said, ‘Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest... For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.’

Burnage Lane Extra Care Scheme



Update from Southway Housing:

Bardsley Construction Ltd, the main contractor for Southway Housing Trust's Extra Care scheme next to St Margaret's Church, has unfortunately gone into administration. As a result of this, Southway have confirmed that Bardsley are no longer contracted to this site. The site is fully secure and construction is currently suspended. Southway and their consultants are working hard to find a new contractor to enable

construction to resume as soon as possible. It is not possible at present to give a completion date for the project. More information is available on



Southway Housing Trust's website: **www.southwayhousing.co.uk** or you can search facebook for southway housing.

Easter Home Communion



Holy Communion can be received at the home of anyone in our parish who is unable to come to services because of illness or mobility problems.

Trained and authorised members of St Margaret's will bring Communion wafers and non-alcoholic communion wine to

your home. These are given as part of a simple service, which includes a gospel reading, prayers and a simple blessing. If you would like to receive home communion please contact the church office: Tel: 0161-432 4606 or by email: **admin@stmargaretsburnage.org.uk** Please leave a contact number and we will be in touch.

Easter Services



Palm Sunday 5th April: 10.30am

Good Friday 10th April: 10.30am

Easter Sunday 12th April: 10.30am

Holy Communion can be

Tuesday Group

Ruth Miller

On a cold, wet morning in February, I turned up at St Margaret's Tuesday Group after an invitation to a 'jigsaw swap'. I asked a couple of people what made them want to come to the group, even in this bad weather, and was not surprised at the responses I heard:

'It gets me out, and stops the slippery slope to isolation'

Now, I'm a bit of a jigsaw fan so I brought along some jigsaws and sure enough, found a couple to take home. But looking around the hall, cup of coffee in hand, I could see there were plenty of other things going on. In one room people were making greeting cards, chatting as they worked.



An exercise session was in full swing in the main hall, a small group were in one corner, laughing as they talked about dodging the awful storm at the

weekend. There were second-hand books and cards to browse through. something tasty was being prepared in the kitchen and Elsie was taking orders for lunch..

Some commented on the lunches:

'The lunches are brilliant, it's nice to be waited on, they are great value'

Others say how much they enjoy the crafts on offer. On the 4th Tuesday of the month after lunch there are Reflections in Church, a short service with a Christian message. People found the reflections to be 'lovely' and 'peaceful'

So if you are 55+ just turn up on a Tuesday morning from 10am (lunch is at 12.30 at a cost of £2): you are guaranteed to get a warm welcome!

'It sets me up for the rest of the week: I wish more people would come and experience it'



Easter Investigators Holiday Club

What did really happen during the first Easter?

Where did the body of Jesus go?

And where is he now?

Calling all young investigators to come and join us for 2 days of fun, games, and activities, as we try to answer these questions and much more!



For children in school years 1 – 6

Wednesday 15th April and Thursday 16th April

10:00 – 3:00pm At St Margaret's Parish Centre

No charge!

Bring a packed lunch, healthy snacks and drinks will be provided.

For more information and a registration form:

e-mail: admin@stmargaretsburnage.org.uk

or telephone the church office: 0161-432 4606

Burnage Holiday Special: 27-31 July 2020

Every summer, in the last week of July, the churches in Burnage get together to hold their popular 'Holiday at Home' week for local people aged 55+ at St Margaret's parish centre. It is a whole week of activities, Mon-Fri from 10.30am to 4pm, usually following a theme.

This year we are 'Going for Gold', focusing on the Olympics which will be happening at the same time. You can learn new skills (computer, crafts, etc), play games, enjoy informative talks and entertainment, and join a day out to

'It's fantastic, there's always something different going on every day'

Llandudno. All are welcome, especially if you want to enjoy something different in Burnage. Summer may still seem a long way off but put the dates in your diary. All activities and food are free except the day trip! Come and enjoy fun, food and friendship, and look forward to a great week!

Come and Join our Easter Services

Palm Sunday: 5th April 10.30am

When Jesus entered Jerusalem

Maundy Thursday: 9th April 7.00pm

When Jesus shared a meal with his friends

Good Friday: 10th April 10.30am

When Jesus died in our place

Easter Sunday: 12th April 10.30am

When Jesus rose from death...

...and everything changed!

Prayer Requests



Prayer Request Slip -

Would you like us to pray for you?

Write your prayer below and drop it
into our prayer box outside St. Margaret's
on Burnage Lane.



St Margaret's Church, 250 Burnage Lane, Burnage, Manchester, M19 1FL

Office Tel: 0161-432 4606

E-Mail: admin@stmargaretsburnage.org.uk