



In Touch

St Margaret's Church, Burnage

Easter 2019

Empty Eggshells

In the spring, it is not unusual to see an empty eggshell on a path where trees and bushes are close by. We hope that this is here because the occupant no longer needs it rather than the nest being attacked by a hungry predator. It is wonderful imagining a young bird in a nest eagerly awaiting a parent's return with food or even reaching that point when they fly the nest into an amazing new adventure.



Eggs have been used in many cultures as symbols of new life and have been adopted in Christian tradition to symbolise the new life we can experience in Jesus. This new life starts when someone invites Jesus to be the centre and focus of their life. It comes with healing and forgiveness- a clean slate. This new life brings purpose in and to life, along with belonging to something bigger and beyond us. And it does not end with this life. Just like the empty eggshell, Jesus left behind an empty tomb. He was raised to life again from the dead and offers us this hope of even more new life to come.

So as you look into the empty shell of your chocolate Easter Egg, pause to wonder at the new life in Jesus.

Rector St Margaret's Church



Easter Services

Maundy Thursday: April 18th 7.00pm

Good Friday: April 19th 10.30am

Easter Sunday: April 21st 10.30am

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

Taste and see...Why I am a Christian

When I was a teenager I heard the good news that Jesus had died for my sins and I asked Him to be my Saviour. A well meaning person told my mother it would not last! I am now 81 and I know that it was the best decision I have ever made because it changed the course of my life. Becoming a Christian is not an insurance policy against bad things happening and I have had to face many difficult changes

over the years, especially brought about by my husband's ill health. He died aged 67 when I was 60. During the 20 years of my widowhood I have experienced God's loving care. There is a verse in the Psalms which is especially important to me, Psalm 34 v 8 which says:

"Taste and see that the Lord is good."

I have been blessed by many considerate people over the years, especially my kind

Muslim neighbours who helped me when I became a widow.

A very kind member of Burnage Good Neighbours visited my husband and arranged for us to go on an outing to Salford Quays.

10 years ago my kind friend, Pauline, invited me to go to St Margaret's. I immediately received a very warm welcome and I am still experiencing that love and friendship.

If you would like to know more about God's love for you why not pay a visit to St Margaret's Church? You will be surprised, as I was, at the warmth of the welcome and friendship you will experience.

A.C.

ST MARGARET'S CHURCH
250 BURNAGE LANE, M19 1FL

EASTER CRACKER

A holiday club bursting with fun for 6-11 year olds.

LOVE BURNAGE

GAMES
STORIES
SONGS

WEDNESDAY
APRIL 10TH -
THURSDAY
APRIL 11TH
10AM - 3PM

More info: stmargaretsburnage.org.uk

Maundy Thursday

Maundy Thursday relates to the events of the Thursday when Jesus was arrested by the Jewish leaders, shortly before his death. On that Thursday Jesus had a meal with his friends. This was a special Passover meal, commemorating the salvation of the Jews when God brought them out of Egypt. It is a meal that Jews still celebrate today in their homes, and it is full of meaning and significance to both Jews and Christians.



At this meal Jesus washed his friends' feet as an example of how his disciples should serve rather than be served. This is a challenge for all who follow Jesus, even today.

Jesus added a new meaning to the Passover meal when he took the bread (representing the lamb that was killed), and broke it and gave it to his friends and said: 'this is my body'.

In Egypt a lamb was killed and its blood was daubed on the door frames and lintels of their houses so that God would pass over their homes when he came to kill the firstborn in the land. At this meal, Jesus took a cup of wine and told his disciples, 'This is my blood poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins.'

When Christians celebrate Communion, we share bread and wine to remember this special Passover meal and the new meaning it was given by Jesus.

After this meal Jesus and his disciples went to the Mount of Olives where Jesus prayed by himself. In the night soldiers came and arrested Jesus and took him to the high priest's house where he was questioned and falsely accused. Waiting outside the high priest's house, Peter denied Jesus three times as Jesus had predicted. The Jewish rulers sentenced Jesus to death but they needed Rome to approve their death sentence and so, at day-break, they took Jesus to the Roman governor, Pontius Pilate.

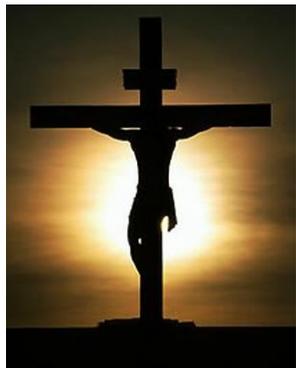
(this story continues on page 4).

ABC

ABC (adults, babies & children) meet together at St Margaret's parish centre every Friday 9.45am - 11.30am. The children play in a safe environment and the carers & parents have a chance to sit, chat and share over copious amounts of tea and toast. This group has been described as the best child care group in Burnage and it is a reflection of St Margaret's care for our community and a credit to the leadership team.

Good Friday

What's so good about Good Friday? So many bad things happened to a man who was innocent. Falsely accused and condemned, Jesus was brought before Pilate. The Jewish leaders expected Pilate to simply agree to Jesus' death sentence. They said to Pilate, "*We found this man leading our people astray, forbidding us to pay taxes to the emperor, and saying that he is the Messiah, a king.*" These accusations must have sounded pathetic to Pilate. What did he care about the Jewish nation being 'led astray' and was he to believe that the man in front of him was capable of forbidding taxes being paid, was this beaten and bloodied man really a king or a Messiah?



All the gospel accounts agree that Jesus, though found innocent, was flogged and mocked and handed over to be crucified.

Jesus was taken to a place known as 'Golgotha' which means the place of the skull. This was probably a place of execution even before Roman times. Here Jesus was nailed to a cross and at about three o'clock in the afternoon he died.

We know that he was dead because the Roman soldiers stabbed him in the side and blood and water flowed out.

The prolonged rapid heartbeat resulting from crucifixion can cause fluid to gather in the area around the heart. This is called pericardial effusion. That is why John described blood and water flowing from Jesus side when he was stabbed with a spear. The body of Jesus was taken to a nearby tomb and a large stone was rolled over the entrance.

So, what's so good about that? Jesus was innocent, there was no reason for him to die, his death makes no sense, unless Jesus really was sent by God to die in our place; bringing forgiveness and enabling us to begin a fresh, loving relationship with God. That would make his death very good.



(Find out what happened next *on page 7*).

Alcoholics Anonymous

I was sober when I walked into the AA meeting at St Margaret's in early July 2007. I was also elated because since finishing my seventh residential 'detoxification' a few days earlier, I hadn't needed a drink. However, I did need regular AA meetings to stay sober – I'd already proved that.

I attended my first meeting in 1975, I was 27 years old, I arrived at the meeting very drunk and I'd recently been sacked from my job.

Alcoholism is defined as a progressive disease with genetic, physical, psychological and social components. Untreated, it usually ends in death or irreparable brain damage. I drank a bottle of gin daily and would probably be dead within two years. Despite support from my GP, alcohol counselling, and hospital detoxes nothing had worked. I had been certain that AA 'wasn't for me', but my addiction was overwhelming and I was in utter despair. Thankfully I was welcomed to that first meeting. I was introduced to the AA 'programme' and told to 'keep coming back'.

Abstinence -- one day at a time -- was the hardest thing I'd ever done but with the help of my new-found friends I was 'alcohol free' after a few weeks.

AA considers alcoholism a physical, mental and spiritual illness and its 12 step programme addresses all three.

Continued sobriety depends on

keeping in good 'spiritual condition' – underpinned by regular meetings (There are over 200 meetings a week in the Manchester area). But, in 1995, I stopped going; I was "too busy" with work and so on. Two years later I picked up a drink. Within weeks I was as addicted as I had been in 1975.

I soon lost everything: my profession, reputation, money, home and wife. For 10 years I was in and out of hospitals and detoxes and I nearly died six times.



That meeting at St Margaret's in 2007 was probably my last chance. I am grateful that I haven't drunk alcohol since and I still 'keep coming back'. I am certain that without such meetings I would now be dead. Meetings at St Margaret's are on **Tuesdays and Fridays at 8:00 pm, and Thursdays at 1:00 pm.**

'C' AA Burnage

Prayer for the Streets of Burnage

Prayer is an important and integral part of what we do at St Margaret's. We pray because we know that God loves us and because we know that He answers our prayers when we turn to Him and we want God to bless Burnage. Each Sunday we pray for specific streets in Burnage. The full list of streets we pray for can be found on our church website: www.stmargaretsburnage.org.uk

Streets we will soon be praying for

April 2019

- 07 April Burnage Lane (Mauldeth Rd to Green End), Fair Oak Rd & Dernford Ave
- 14 April **(Palm Sunday)** Ferndale Gdns, Brookdene Rd & Thornhill Rd
- 21 April **(Easter Sunday)** Thornfield Rd, Rosevale Ave & Holcombe Gdns
- 28 April Westcroft, Southbank, Southlea Rds, Kingsway Cres & Woodbray Ave

May 2019

- 05 May Northbank Gdns, Briarfield Rd & Burnbray Ave
- 12 May Shawlea Ave, Woodlea Ave, Sunnylea Ave & Briarlea Gdns
- 19 May Green End Rd, Oasis Close & Broadlea Rd
- 26 May Hyde Fold Close, Church Lane, Bibby Lane, Pearn Rd & Pearn Ave

June 2019

- 02 June Burnage Lane (Green End to Barcicroft Rd) & Brookway Close
- 09 June **(Pentecost Sunday)** Westdean Cres, Alston Gdns & Ashburn Ave
- 16 June Moorcroft Drive, Moorcroft Walk, Mauldeth Rd & Whitehurst Rd
- 23 June Kingsway (from Barcicroft Rd to Mauldeth Rd)
- 30 June Barnfield Rd, Oakland Ave & Carrgreen Close

July 2019

- 07 July Burnage Lane (Mauldeth Rd to Slade Lane) & Hodgson Court
- 14 July Heathwood Rd, Angleside Ave & Ivylea Rd
- 21 July Errwood Rd (Green End to Shawbrook Rd), Woodside Ave, Elmhurst Dr & Wood View Ave

August 2019

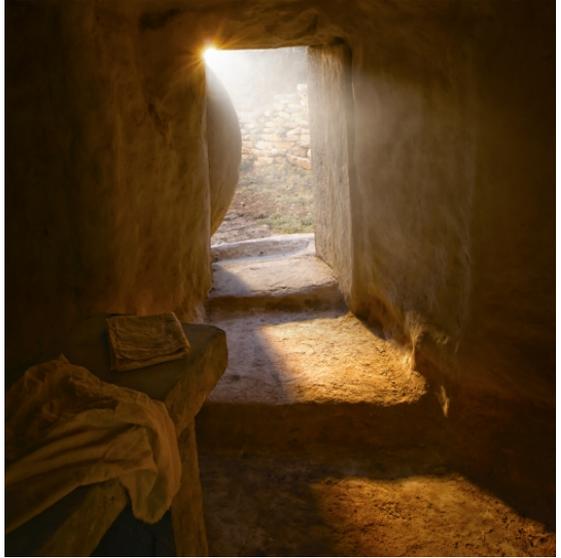
- 04 Aug Crompton Rd, Kempton Rd, Ranford Rd, Milwain Rd & Hilbre Rd
- 11 Aug Watford Rd., Enfield Ave & Guernsey Close
- 18 Aug Eastern Circle, Ealing Place & Harrow Ave
- 25 Aug Henley Place & Pinner Place & Amersham Place

Easter Sunday

Time has passed. It is now the third day since Jesus died. Reports begin to spread that something has happened at the place where Jesus was laid. The stone has been rolled away, and his body has gone. Some of the women who followed Jesus claim to have seen him!

Later that day, Jesus appears to his disciples who are locked in a room, hiding in fear. Others meet Jesus as they are walking to their home town. They are all convinced that Jesus has risen from the dead!

There are only two choices, either he did, or, he didn't. It is reasonable to think that Jesus did not rise from the dead, especially as we have good proof that Jesus really was dead! If the flogging and the crucifixion didn't kill him then the spear thrust through his side into his lungs and heart would have, and we know that dead people stay dead.



But, how can we explain the obvious conviction of those who believe that Jesus really did rise from the dead?

Two thousand years ago there was only a handful of people who believed that Jesus was the Son of God and that he died for us and that he rose again on that third day. Today there are about 2.4 billion Christians which is about one third of the world's population. How did that happen?

The Bible tells us that after Jesus rose from the dead he met with his disciples on many occasions, teaching them that his death and resurrection was all a part of God's plan to give everyone the chance of sharing a new loving relationship with God. When Jesus returned to be with the Father, he told his disciples to wait for the Holy Spirit that he would send. The Holy Spirit came on the day of Pentecost. Immediately the disciples were filled with power, they spoke boldly about Jesus and they performed many miracles and many people believed. This same Holy Spirit has been given to those who ask Jesus to be their Lord and Saviour.

Today you too can receive... you only have to ask.

(the story continues...in the lives of His followers)

Easter Home Communion



Holy Communion can be received at the home of anyone in our parish who cannot now 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 (which have been blessed by the clergy) 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 take home communion please contact the church office:

Tel: 0161-432 4606 or by email: admin@stmargaretsburnage.org.uk

Burnage Holiday Special for Older People 5 Days of Fun, Food and Friendship

Don't miss out!

If you are over 55 and fancy a "Holiday at Home" then Burnage Holiday Special may be just right for you! Organized by Christians from the local churches (CTIB) our holiday special takes place in the Parish Centre of St Margaret's Church on Burnage Lane.

We will be meeting together, 10.30am to 4.00pm from Monday 29th July to Friday 2nd August.

There will be lots of interesting activities and talks together with food, fun and friendship. Everything is free, including lunch.

On Thursday there will be a trip to Llandudno which is arranged for those attending the event. There will be a small charge for this trip.

All over 55 are welcome –come every day or as often as you can manage. We hope you can make it and we look forward to seeing you then.



EASTER CRACKER

FREE Holiday Club bursting with fun for 6-11 year olds

St Margarets Church - April 10-11th - 10am-3pm

More info and register: www.stmargaretsburnage.org.uk/holiday-club

Experience Jesus

My first experience of St Margaret's church was when my class from Green End School came on a school visit arranged by the new Rector Rev Frank Bowyer. Little did I realise that years later I would return to St Margaret's and become a follower of Jesus, and go on to marry Frank Bowyer's daughter!

Several Rectors have come and gone since then and in 2016 the Rev Matt Calladine arrived and in his first year at St Margaret's, he introduced us to 'Experience Christmas', 'Experience Easter' and 'Experience Pentecost'. We invite local school children to come to experience the things that happened at these important occasions, as described for us in the Bible.

The church is divided into six zones which are dressed to depict a part of the story where we tell of the Biblical events leading up to the birth of Jesus or His death and resurrection or of the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost.

The reaction to these events has been extremely positive from both teachers

and students. Last Christmas we had over 350 schoolchildren and their teachers come and experience what Christmas is really all about. This year we are looking to include older students from Burnage Academy.



This year 'Experience Easter' will take place for 2 weeks from 18 March.

Our hope is that these Biblical truths will become a reality in the lives of all who hear them. You don't have to come to an 'Experience' event to experience Jesus...if you ask him he will come into your life and be with you where you are and he promised that he will never leave you.



Prayer Requests



**Prayer Request Slip - Do you want us to pray for you?
Write your prayer below and drop it into our prayer box
outside St. Margaret's on Burnage Lane.**



New Housing in Burnage

Work has started to transform the former laundry site on Burnage Lane. Some site preparation has been done prior to builders moving in on 29th April. Southway Housing purchased the site by auction in 2012 and demolished the laundry in 2013. Following various Government cut backs, it is only now that Homes England has provided funding for the building work to begin.



Lucy Hampson, project manager for the scheme at Southway says, ***“we are building 56 Extra Care apartments which will be let to people ages 55 and over. There will be a mix of 34 one bedroom and 22 two bedroom apartments”***. They will include a residents lounge, a bistro open to the public, assisted bathroom, scooter store and car park with communal gardens. There will be a manager on site. It is envisaged that not all residents will need a carer, but carers will have an office in the premises so that those who need it can be cared for.

Architects Pozzoni have designed several Extra Care schemes and have liaised with planners and local residents throughout the design



process. Builders, Bardsley Construction, have extensive experience of building these kind of buildings throughout the North West. Southway are keen to provide affordable homes for rent across South Manchester.

Work is due to be completed in late 2020. Anyone who wants to get their name down can contact Southways Hub on 0161 448 4200. One of their housing officers (Jackey, Hazel, Jean or Jabeen) will then phone them with more details. There is a separate application for Extra Care schemes on Manchester Move. Documents are available on:

www.manchestermove.co.uk.

This can be done around the summer of 2020. Decisions on how the property is allocated will be led by an Extra Care Panel. Lucy adds, ***“This is so that the correct mix of tenants is achieved in terms of high, medium and low care needs”***. Tenants will move in over a few weeks as the apartments are completed.

Love Burnage Fun Day - it's back!

It's already time to get excited about Love Burnage 2019. This year will be the best ever celebration of what's good about Burnage and God's Love for the community.

Mark your diary for 15th June for the Fun Day event but be prepared to see more activities in the weeks leading up to the Fun Day weekend.



We particularly want **you** to get involved with our very own "Scarecrow Trail" round Burnage bringing fun and exploration to the streets. (Think of the Manchester Bee hunt!)

This year's theme is 'Made in Burnage'. Don't hold back, we want you to be creative and imaginative with your scarecrow. We may even have some pictures on line and a vote to choose the best scarecrow.

(Matt Calladine, our Rector, is already stuffing straw into an old vicar shirt!) As far as Love Burnage Fun Day goes we will be having the usual activities including face painting, food and music with the added attractions of our Cue Ball Crazy activity and a display of Birds of Prey! (or is that pray?) *Don't let go of your small children!*

We hope to have a display of hobbies and handicrafts from the people of Burnage and if you want to exhibit something get in touch. This is to show off what people can do rather than a sales opportunity as everything that happens on Fun Day is FREE!

Join the Fun Everyone!

St Margaret's Church

LOVE BURNAGE

LOVE BURNAGE 2019

community fun day

Scarecrow
Make a scarecrow and enter it to win.
Competition

Sunflower
Can you grow the tallest sunflower?
Competition

Saturday 15th June 2pm-5pm

Lots of FREE fun for all the family:

- ☺ Choirs ☺ Birds of Prey Display ☺
- ☺ Live Music ☺ Cue Ball Crazy ☺
- ☺ Face Painting ☺ Bouncy Castles ☺
- ☺ Tea & Cake ☺ Flowers & Art ☺ BBQ
- ☺ Messy Church Fun ☺ and more... ☺

St Margaret's Church, Burnage Lane

Love Burnage Fun Day - 2019

We will be in the local schools and hope to have performances from some local children and maybe even the teachers.

Love Burnage Fun Day happens regularly and we want people to feel welcome to come along and join in. God really does love you every day rather than just at the Fun Day Event.

We look forward to seeing what you can create for the Scarecrow Trail. Do sign up and let us know. Hope to see you there on 15th June 2019.

If you have an idea for a scarecrow in your garden start working on it soon and have it ready for the 1st of June. You can send us your details using the slip below or drop us an email to admin@stmargaretsburnage.org.uk



We will publish a map showing the street but not your actual address and you can go round the community looking for them and enjoying the creativity of all the fantastic people who live right here in Burnage.

If you would like to make a scarecrow or display a craft or a hobby please complete the slip below. Thank you!



I will make a scarecrow

Name

Street/Road.....



I would like to display my hobby of

Name.....

Phone/Email.....

Return this slip to The Rectory, 250 Burnage Lane or complete online by visiting our website: www.stmargaretsburnage.org.uk/funday