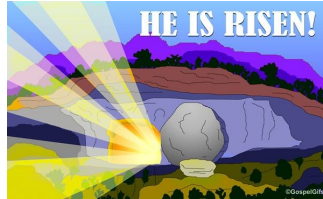


This week's service

Today's service for Easter Sunday is led by Rev Patrick Douglas

Sunday 31st March 2024



This week's readings



John 20:1-18

A thought from Patrick

We gather this Sunday, this special, if the most special day of the year to remember and celebrate what God has done for all of us through Jesus Christ. This Sunday is the day of Resurrection, of new life, a new created order starting.

When we remember that the God who so loves the world gave his one and only son to die for each of us but more he brought him back from death to life so that we may know life and life in all its fullness, glory and hope.

A day when for us the whole relationship we have with the God who loves us changes and opens up for us, so we are not just known by God, but we can know God too.

Alleluia Christ is Risen.

Prayer for the week

God of glory,

by the raising of your Son

you have broken the chains of death and hell:

fill your Church with faith and hope;

for a new day has dawned

and the way to life stands open

in our Saviour Jesus Christ.

Amen

Eggs: Symbols of New Life

Eggs have been a part of Spring rituals since before recorded history. After the long winter, chickens and other birds start to lay eggs again, each egg bursting with new life, mirroring the entire season of Spring. Ancient people, like the Hutsuls of Ukraine, decorated eggs and gave them as gifts to special people in their lives. So, the symbolism of eggs does predate Christianity.

Early Christians, recognizing the power of the egg as a symbol for new life, connected eggs to the new life found in the Resurrection of Jesus Christ at Easter. Eggs are a perfect Easter symbol, and a symbol of new life in Christ.

"So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!" 2 Corinthians 5:17

Eggs also remind Christians of the end of the **Lenten fast** and the joyful conclusion of that discipline on Easter.

During Lent, eggs (along with meat and milk) were not consumed. Thus, eggs on Easter symbolize the transition from fasting to celebration.



Church diary for the next month

Sunday 7th April
10:45 Morning Worship
 with Sean O'Toole

Sunday 14th April
10:45 Morning Worship
 with Rev Patrick Douglas

Sunday 21st April
10:45 Holy Communion
 led by Rev Mike Firbank
Followed by APCM

Sunday 28th April
10:45 Morning Worship
 with Nigel Worth

Sunday 5th May
10:45 Morning Worship
 with Nigel Worth

Sunday 12th May
10:45 Morning Worship
 with Rev Patrick Douglas

Cleaning Rota

Please clean the church before the date marked.

Please swap with someone else on the rota if you cannot clean during your week.

The toilets will be cleaned weekly by Sean & Sandra

7 th Apr	Bill
14 th Apr	Brian Redfern
21 st Apr	Val & Andrew
28 th Apr	Christine
5 th May	Deb P
12 th May	Jane
19 th May	Bill

Refreshments Rota

It's a real blessing to be able to spend time chatting with one another after the service. We have a rota for serving tea & coffee.

Please swap with someone if you cannot do a particular date.

Please bring the milk. Thank you

31 st Mar	Carol
7 th Apr	James
14 th Apr	Maxine & Jane
21 st Apr	Christine
28 th Apr	Deb W & Alicia
5 th May	Carol
12 th May	James
19 th May	Maxine & Jane

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING



21st APRIL

Everyone is invited to our Annual Church Meeting which will take place after the service on Sunday 21st April.

If you want to take an active part and vote on any matters you need to have your name on the church electoral roll. Forms are on the table at the back of church.

If you lead a group or activity please send your report to Christine for inclusion in the APCM booklet.

HARTSHORNE Parish Magazine March 1907

Easter Services

EASTER DAY— March 31

Holy Communion, 7 and 8 a.m., Mattins, 9.30 a.m., Holy Eucharist and Sermon, 11 a.m.

Children's Service, 2.45 p.m., Evensong and Sermon, 6.30 p.m.

Easter Day

Easter Day is the greatest of all festivals, on it our Lord arose again from the dead, thus triumphing over death and the grave.

"Let us therefore keep the Feast." Let us assemble ourselves together and offer to our risen and glorified Lord a great united act of praise and thanksgiving.

Note. "That every Parishioner shall communicate at least three times in the year, of which *Easter* to be one."

Spring clean and recycle for Alzheimer's Society

If you're having a spring clean, please remember that Gwen is collecting a range of items to send off to raise funds for Alzheimer's Society. These include:

- **Gadgets - mobile phones, iPods, satnavs, games consoles, games, tablets, cameras and video cameras**
- **Jewellery - gold, silver, costume jewellery, watches, broken and damaged items (like odd earrings or snapped chains)**
- **Unwanted currency - old and new, UK and foreign banknotes & coins; including all the pre Euro notes which are now worthless**
- **Stamps - loose/single used stamps, albums, first day covers/presentation packs, collections**

Have a word with Gwen if you can help.



Thank you