

ST MARGARET'S VOICES

St Margaret of Antioch Church ~ Crick

Thought for the Week

Sin is a word that is not used very much these days. It is not positive, it can be accusative, and you can get a fierce comeback if you say that someone has sinned. But sin still exists no matter what we say, or don't say. Sin is not a mistake or an error. It is the lack of doing/speaking good things. It is the doing/speaking of bad things. It is disobedience to God. It is still the reason why various people will go to Hell rather than Heaven. That is why every single one of us needs Jesus to forgive us. That is why Easter celebrates the most important part of Christianity. The forgiveness of sins to everyone who clings to Jesus.

ST MARGARET'S CHURCH WEEKLY SERVICES

Weds 17th April~ Holy Communion **10.30am**

Sun 21st April~ SHINE
family service- **3.0pm**

Mon 22nd April ~ Little Saints~ **2.15-3.30pm**

**COME AND JOIN US.
OUR WELCOME IS
ALWAYS ASSURED.**



WELCOME

Have you seen Paddington 2 and the closing song that goes... 'Plunk plunka plink, plunk plunka plink Plunka'? In Psalm 2:4: we are told "But the one who rules in heaven laughs". The former is not a tongue twister- but could be. Try it- three times quickly and see if you laugh at yourself. It's supposed to be the sound of rain on a roof which we've been hearing quite a lot lately! Next time there's an April shower listen carefully. You might even hear it on your way past St Margaret's or on your way in to our services. If so, may it put a spring in your step! We would love to see you; you can share with us if it really does go Plunk plunka plink, plunk plunka plink Plunka'

I remember as a child thinking that farmers had an idyllic life – working outside, fresh air, sunshine – no stuffy office to spend their days in. The truth today is rather a different picture. The climate is changing and there has been so much rainfall resulting in rivers breaking their banks, widespread flooding, young animals unable to go out and graze in the flooded fields, picking up infections more easily in their crowded sheds. Crops have not been sown due to the flooded fields, less food available for them to hand. We need to do more to help bring about improvement in climate change so farmers and their livestock can flourish once again.

Contributors: Rev Graeme, Judy Anderson, Bryan Gault, Alison Howard, Dave Milne, Kent Polley, John Rogers, Steve Westwood, John Winn

Prayer for the Week.

Dear Lord **J**esus-Your name is beautiful; your name flies high above all other names, and I worship you. Your name **h**eals, builds me up, and gives me hope. **J**esus-Thank you that **w**e can bring **e**verything to you in **p**raye**r**; nothing is off-limits with you. **J**esus-Thank you for **s**aving me; for your **r**escue package which **s**aves me from **m**yself and the **s**ins that bind me. **J**esus-**Y**ou **u**n unravel me, and then weave me into **y**our perfect plan. I marvel that you **u** know me inside **o**ut. **J**esus-I am **s**ecure in the knowledge of your love, your unconditional love. I will be with you for eternity. Thank you Lord **J**esus.

To be a (modern day) Pilgrim

We have recently been visiting holy sights during a week in Norfolk with family. The relentless traffic and mileage covered via fast, twisting, (and frankly scary), roads to Norwich Cathedral, and especially to Walsingham, tested our stamina even though we were not walking there, but car-bound (through wind and rain)! There would be the parking and queuing - quite a feat of relative endurance. We are not the hardened traditional pilgrims of the past, struggling barefoot over cobbled streets, doing penance! But nevertheless it was quite a prayerful long-haul in the era of the "modern pilgrim". Being in these holy places was our reward! Thine be the Glory, Oh Lord, throughout all ages.

Sometimes there are days when nothing seems to go right.

Everything you touch refuses to work, breaks, or is out of battery? And when you try to sort one problem out, it leads to 3 more? One might call them "duvet days", because the best thing can be to step back, relax, and start again tomorrow. No, it isn't always possible, but it is a timely reminder that Jesus offered to ease our burdens, and so many times, that 'time-out' with him enables you to re-approach the challenges with a fresh mindset. And isn't it then amazing when those challenges are so much easier to deal with?

Luke 24; 36B-48 We celebrate on Easter Sunday the resurrection of Jesus. But this is only the beginning of events that bring Christianity into a permanent reality. The first steps are Jesus' appearance to Mary Magdalene by the tomb, then to the two men on the road to Emmaus. However the mainspring which established our belief, and the belief through 2000 years, was Jesus' appearance to the Eleven disciples in the locked room where they had gathered in fear of the Jews. This was absolute proof, dispelling any doubts or uncertainties, that earthly death is not the end but a new beginning.

FACT FILE: Morris Dancers

These words often bring to mind hankies and sticks, white costumes with ribbons, waistcoats and decorated hats. This style is known as Cotswold Morris and originated in the villages of Gloucestershire, Oxfordshire, Northamptonshire and Warwickshire, but many other styles include Appalachian and Maypole. The term "Morris" comes from a Flemish form of "Moorish", although Morris dancing has no known historical connection to the Moors. The tradition of dancers blackening their faces may have been a form of disguise, a reference to the Moors or to miners. The origins of the practice remain unclear and are the subject of ongoing debate.



Acts 3: 12-19 A fresh start is available to all who put their trust in Jesus. Why? Because when God raised Jesus, God changed everything. Consequently, our lives can be changed too because of the power of God who resurrects. Through the name of Jesus whom God raised up, Peter and John raised up the lame man, giving him a new beginning. This new beginning is available to all who believe: "The power of Christ, it heals me, the blood of Christ forgives me. It's greater than I can comprehend. The power, the blood of Christ. Amen."