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PARIS	H DIAR			
Sun 20 th	8.15 am	Morning Prayer (CC)		
Easter Day	9.15 am	Easter Morning Parish Eucharist (CC) followed by refreshments		
		This service is also available li	ve on our Facebook page	
BR 64 %		5		
Mon 21 st Easter Monday		E=3		
		63		
Tue 22 nd Tuesday of				
Easter Week		6-3		
Wed 23 rd	8.30 am	Tea & Toast (CC)		
Wednesday of Easter week	10.30 am	Midweek Eucharist (HT)		
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Thu 24 th Thursday of	4.00 pm	Holy Hour (CC)		
Easter Week				1
Fri 25 th				1
Friday of Easter Week		600		
Sat 26 th		63		
Saturday of		1		
Easter Week				
Sun 27 th	9.15 am	The Eucharist followed by		
2nd Sunday of Easter	11.00 am	The Eucharist followed by refreshments (HT) This service is also available live on our Facebook page		
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The Parish of Hadk and Wellington C One Parish * Work to serve the people of Aples				
Monday 28 th April - Standing Committee				
		2 th May - Pastora		
Sunday 18 th May - Annual Parochial Church Meeting				
Monday 26 th May - Parochial Church Council				
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Mission Collection				
this week				
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WELCOME To all who join us for worship this week				
At services of Holy Communion we invite all full or				
communicant members of Christ's church to share with us in				
		ne Holy Sacrament.	and the state of the	
21		t Christ Church our celebran rinity our celebrant is Fr David.	t is Revd Heather and at Hol	y

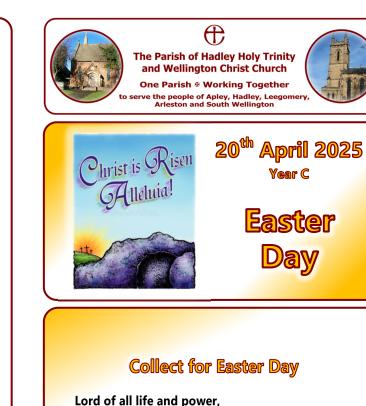
At Christ Church our celebrant is Revd Heather and at Holy Trinity our celebrant is Fr David.



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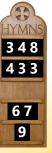
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who through the mighty resurrection of your Son overcame the old order of sin and death to make all things new in him: grant that we, being dead to sin and alive to you in Jesus Christ, may reign with him in glory; to whom with you and the Holy Spirit be praise and honour, glory and might, now and in all eternity. Amen

Come follow Christ in the footsteps of St Chad



Readings and Hymns

Acts 10:34-43 1 Corinthians 15:19-26 John 20:1-18

DIOCESE OF

FOR YOUR PRAYERS

For People:

For Arjan; Eileen; Geoff; Harrison; Jenny; Jo and Mart; Linda; Lynn and Bernard; Peter and Shirley; Terry and Sue; Tom;

Our Community and Nation:

For families as they struggle to meet the challenge of rising inflation, and for the government and trade unions as they attempt to reconcile their differences in the current economic climate.

Our World:

Those affected by earthquakes, wild fires and other weather related disasters.

The people of Ukraine, the Middle East and other areas of conflict, especially those attempting to bring peace and reconciliation.

Our Mission Collection:

Samaritans (Telford) have been providing emotional support since the branch was founded in 1975 and their vision is for a society in which:

- Fewer people die by suicide.
- People are able to explore their feelings.
- People are able to acknowledge and respect the feelings of others.

Samaritans support everyone. Their name is an historical accident dating from when the Daily Mirror first found out about their service, they described them as "Good Samaritans", and the name stuck.

Our Church and Parish:

For the parish clergy, PCC, congregations and all residents of our parish as we celebrate Easter.

The Faithful Departed:

For Alexander Hart and Barry Owen;

Holy Hour

Christ Church S Thursday @ 4.00 pm An opportunity to pray, to wait and to listen, in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament.

Death, But Not As We Know It

The other day, I recalled a controversial Easter sermon I gave early on in my time here. I say controversial because afterwards two people questioned my use of the phrase "God was dead".

Of course I don't believe God is dead, I think my bishop would have something to say about it! I was however referring to the events of Good Friday and Holy Saturday.

We believe that Jesus is God, right? And we know that Jesus died on the cross, so God was dead. Are you with me?

So think of Jesus, lying dead in his tomb where his friends put him and sealed it off, or so our mortal minds would have us believe, but thankfully the highly contentious events of Easter morning lie ahead. But according to the tradition Jesus is not lying around awaiting resurrection but already doing the work of salvation.

According to some theologians it is to the harrowing depths of Hell where Jesus went, and to get to Hell, what do you have to do? You have to die. Before that first Easter Day, to die was to descend to the darkest depths. Death meant death. What was Jesus doing there? Well, having trampled the gates of hell, Jesus rescued those that had died before him and descended to the depths. He liberated all those lost to death and were awaiting rescue. I've heard Jesus here described as a "reverse bouncer"

A version of this can be found in the icon of the Anastasis found in Eastern Orthodox churches. Think of the words "he descended to hell" that we say every time we recite the Apostles creed.

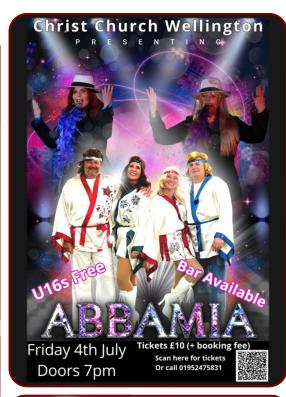
Jesus died, therefore God was dead. But it wasn't a death like we know it. It was an active death. A death that rescued all those souls. Imagine them shaking off their chains as they were released. It's a death that was active then and active now as we too are promised the saving actions of Jesus through our faith in him.

Unsurprisingly, I stand by what I said. Death is different now. It's not how we imagine it to be, as a final act of our lives. Through faith in Jesus, our death is merely a hiccup in a continuation of life, but life in the eternal love of the God who always rescues.

So however I deliver the good news of Easter the message is still the same every time: Have no fear, no matter who you are, no matter what you've done, no matter what's been done to you, rescue is at hand, your chains will fall away and you will emerge from what you thought was infinite darkness into the eternal light you were created for.

Happy Easter!

Fr Stuart Howes







We're making a swathe of poppies for display on VE Day on 8th May, VJ Day in August and Remembrance in November.

All poppies donated will be used and there will be a 'sewing on' event at Holy Trinity. Details to follow. Rosemary