

Longfleet United Reformed Church

NEWSLETTER



April 2010

www.longfleeturc.org.uk

Longfleet URC :

Minister with Oversight – Reverend Ray Stanyon

Church Secretary & Treasurer – Mrs Jean Hunt

Worship rota for April

April 4 th -	The Revd Bryan George (Communion Service)
April 11 th -	Mr J Russell
April 18 th -	Revd Barry Cheetham
April 25 th -	TBC (check our website for updates)

LECTIONARY READINGS

April 1 st Maundy Thursday	Exodus 12: 1-14, Psalm 116: 1-2, 12-19, 1Corinthians 11: 23-26, John 13: 1-17, 31b-35
April 2 nd Good Friday	Isaiah 52: 13-53:12, Psalm 22, Hebrews 10: 16-25, John: 18: 1-19, 42
April 4 th Easter Sunday	Isaiah 65: 17-25, Psalm 118: 1-2, 14- 24, Acts 10: 34-43, John 20: 1-18
April 11 th	11Kings: 1-16, Psalm 150, Revelation: 1, 4-8, John 20: 19-31
April 18 th	Isaiah 61: 1-3, Psalm 30, Revelation 5: 11-14, John 21: 1-9
April 25 th	Isaiah 53: 1-6, Psalm 23, Revelation 7: 9-17, John 10: 22-30

Welcome rota for April

Mrs N Palmer

Prayer Meetings

Prayer meetings held at the church on Sunday April 4th and 18th at 9.15 am.

Additional meetings will be held on April 1st and 15th at 7pm. For details of venue and more information please ring 01202 669566

EASTER PRAYERS

Let us thank God for Easter and all that it means to us.

For the joy of spring-time, bringing new life into the world

We thank you, Lord.

For the message of Easter filling our hearts with a new hope

We thank you, Lord.

For the life and death of Jesus in which He showed His great love for us

We thank you, Lord.

For the knowledge that He rose from the dead and brought light and joy into a dark world.

We thank you, Lord.

For the knowledge that He is here with us now, and will remain in our hearts to help and guide us always.

We thank you, Lord.

Now to the Lord Jesus Christ, who for our sakes gave up His life upon the Cross, be all honour and glory. Amen.

As we remember, O Lord, Your lonely death on the Cross, we pray You to be near all who need the comfort of Your presence. We, too, would take our part in helping the old, the sick and the lonely. Make us quick to see the needs of others and show us the ways in which we can serve them best in Your name. Amen.

April 1st MAUNDY THURSDAY

Maundy Thursday is famous for two things. The first is one of the final acts that Jesus did before his death: the washing of his own disciples' feet. Jesus washes his disciples' feet for a purpose: "A new command I give you: Love one another, as I have loved you, so you must love one another". His disciples were to love through service, not domination, of one another.

In Latin, the opening phrase of this sentence is "mandatum novum do vobis." The word "maundy" is thus a corruption of the Latin, "mandatum" (or command). The ceremony of the "washing of the feet" of members of the congregation came to be an important part of the liturgy (regular worship) of the medieval church, symbolising the humility of the clergy, in obedience to the example of Christ.

But Thursday was also important because it was on that night that Jesus first introduced the Lord's Supper, or what we nowadays call Holy Communion, Jesus and his close friends had met in a secret upper room to share the Passover meal together - for the last time. And there Jesus transformed the Passover into The Lord's Supper, saying, "this is my body," and "this is my blood," as he, the Lamb of God, prepared to die for the sins of the whole world. John's gospel makes it clear that the Lord's Supper took place the evening BEFORE the regular Passover meal, and that later Jesus died at the same time that the Passover lambs were killed.

April 2nd GOOD FRIDAY

Good Friday is the day on which Jesus died on the cross. it is the most solemn day in the Christian year, and it is widely marked by the removal of all decorations from churches. In Lutheran churches, the day was marked by the reading of the passion narrative in a gospel, a practice which lies behind the "passions" composed by Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750) Both the St Matthew Passion and the St John Passion have their origins in this observance of Good Friday.

The custom of observing a period of three hours' devotion from 12 midday to 3pm on Good Friday goes back to the 18th century. The "Three Hours of the Cross" often take the form of an extended meditation on the "Seven Last Words from the Cross" with periods of silence, prayer, or hymn-singing.

The Ten Most Mentioned Women in the Bible

Sarah (56 times)

Leah (34)

Jezebel (23)

Abigail (15)

Mary Magdalene (14)

Rachel (47)

Rebekah (31)

Mary, mother of Jesus (19)

Miriam (15)

Hagar (14)

April 4th EASTER

Easter, of course, is the most special day of the Christian year: the Resurrection of Jesus Christ. Why does the date move around so much? Because the date of Passover moves around, and according to the biblical account, Easter is tied to the Passover. Passover celebrates the Israelites exodus from Egypt and it lasts for seven days, from the middle of the Hebrew month of Nisan, which equates to late March or early April.

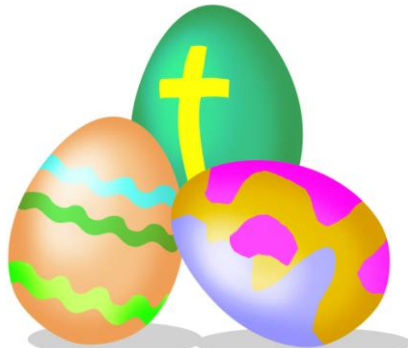
Sir Isaac Newton was one of the first to use the Hebrew lunar calendar to come up with firm dates for Good Friday: Friday 7 April 30 AD or Friday 3 April 33 AD, with Easter Day falling two days later. Modern scholars continue to think these the most likely.

Most people will tell you that Easter falls on the first Sunday after the first full moon after the Spring Equinox, which is broadly true. But the precise calculations are unbelievably complicated and involve something called an "ecclesiastical full moon ", which is not the same as the moon in the sky. The earliest possible date for Easter in the West is 22 March, which last fell in 1818 and won't fall again until 2285. The latest is 25 April which last happened in 1943 and is next due in 2038.

Why the name, "Easter"? In almost every European language the festival's name comes from "Pesach",

the Hebrew word for Passover. The Germanic word "Easter" however, seems to come from Eostre, a Saxon fertility goddess mentioned by the Venerable Bede. He thought that the Saxons worshipped her in Eostur month", but may have confused her with the classical dawn goddesses like Eos and Aurora, whose names mean "shining in the east". So Easter might have meant simply "beginning month" - a good time for starting up again after a long winter.

Finally, why Easter eggs? On one hand, they are an ancient symbol of birth in most European cultures. On the other hand, hens start laying regularly again each Spring. Since eggs were forbidden during Lent, it's easy to see how decorating and eating them became a practical way to celebrate Easter.



April 23rd St GEORGE'S DAY d circa 300 AD

The Saint of an English army before he was Patron Saint of England. St. George may have been a soldier but he was no Englishman. He was an officer in the Roman army under Diocletian, who refused to abandon his faith during the Terror, and was martyred at Lydda in Palestine about the year 300 AD - supposedly 23 April. Over the years St George became the example of a Christian fighting man, a powerful helper against evil powers affecting individual lives. He was the soldier-hero of the Middle Ages, of whom remarkable deeds were reported.

In the Golden Legend of the 13th century , Jacobus de Voragine gave St George a handsome write up. the story runs thus:-

One day, St George rode up to the heathen city of Syrene in Lybia, where he found the citizens in great distress. A neighbouring dragon had forced them to surrender two sheep each day for its dinner and when the sheep gave out, two of their children: and now they were about to sacrifice the King's daughter, dressed as if for her wedding. St George encountered the little party by a stagnant lake, where the dragon lived, and persuaded the sobbing Princess to tell him why she was so miserable. At that moment the dragon appeared, looking inexpressibly revolting. The Saint charged,

and drove his spear into the gaping mouth. To everyone's amazement, he tumbled the monster over and over.

Then St George borrowed the princess's girdle, tied it round the dragon's neck, and persuaded her to lead it back to Sylene herself. The sight of her approaching with the befuddled dragon on its makeshift lead emptied the town. When the inhabitants timidly crept back, St George promised to behead the dragon if they would all believe in Jesus Christ and be baptised.

It was a most effective form of evangelism, for everybody said "yes" at once. So 15,000 people were baptised, and four carts were commissioned to remove the dragon's body.

St George thus became a symbol of the war against evil, and is usually portrayed trampling the dragon of sin under his horse's hoofs. The Crusaders had a vision of him helping them against the Saracens at Antioch, during the first Crusade, and so brought the story of St George back with them from Palestine. Presently England put herself under the protection of the Saint. His day was declared a holiday in 1222. A red cross on a white flag is the flag of Saint George.

April 25th Mark (dc 74)

Mark, whose home in Jerusalem became a place of rest for Jesus and his 12 apostles, is considered the traditional author of the second gospel. He is also usually identified as the young man, described in Mark 14:51, who followed Christ after his arrest and then escaped capture by leaving his clothes behind.

Papias, in 130, said that in later years Mark became Peter's interpreter. If so, then this close friendship would have been how Mark gathered so much information about Jesus' life. Peter referred to him affectionately as his "son".

Mark was also a companion to Paul on his journeys. When Paul was held captive at Rome, Mark was with him, helping him. Mark's Gospel, most likely written in Italy, perhaps in Rome, is the earliest account we have of the life of Jesus.

Early in the 9th century Mark's body was brought to Venice, whose patron he became, and there it has remained to this day. The symbol of Mark as an evangelist, the lion, is much in evidence at Venice.

The Real Easter Quiz

How well do you really know the Easter story? This quiz explores the truth about Easter, and its pagan origins, symbols, traditions, myths and misconceptions. The idea of this quiz isn't to stop your enjoyment of Easter Day, tell you it's right or wrong, or give you all the answers, but merely to open your eyes to the fact that something that professes to be Christian might not be in harmony with scripture and encourage you to research the subject for yourself. As always, our advice is to read what the Bible says for yourself rather than relying on church traditions or other sources which claim something is scriptural.

True or False?

Q1. The word "Easter" is found in the Authorised Version of the Bible?

True - Acts 12:4, but the word used ("pascha") would have been much better translated as "Passover", and indeed the other 28 times the word "pascha" is used in the New Testament it is translated as "Passover".

Q2. Christ is known in scripture as the Easter Lamb?

False - Christ was a representation of the sacrificial lamb used at Passover, and as such, Christ's death and resurrection is closely associated with Passover, not Easter.

Q3. Easter is derived from the name of a goddess?

True - The Saxon goddess Eostre or Eastre was a goddess honoured around the time of the Passover, ultimately derived from 'east' suggesting it refers to a goddess associated with dawn. The Babylonian goddess Ishtar or Astarte is also linked to the origins of Easter.

Q4. First century Christians celebrated Easter?

False - Easter as we know it was not celebrated in the 1st century. The first century Christians remembered the death and resurrection of Christ through the breaking of bread and the drinking of wine on a regular basis, instituted by Christ himself at the 'Last Supper' - effectively making an annual celebration of Easter unnecessary and an addition to God's Word. See Mark 7:6-9.

Q5. The Easter Sunrise service is held because Christ was resurrected at dawn?

False - It was still dark when Mary came to the empty tomb, (John 20:1 The first day of the week cometh Mary Magdalene early, when it was yet dark, unto the sepulchre, and seeth the stone taken away from the sepulchre). The tomb was already empty, the resurrection had already happened, perhaps hours before. Yet people gather together each year, face East and watch the rising sun as part of the resurrection service - much like a pagan sun worshipper would!

Q6. Hot cross buns were created because of the cross of Christ?

False - Hot cross buns come from Greek and Egyptian traditions of eating small cakes in honour to their goddesses they worshipped. The Saxons marked buns with a cross to honour their goddess Eostre. These might even be the same things that Jeremiah spoke of - Jeremiah 7:18.

Q7. Christians have adopted Easter eggs to represent Christ's resurrection?

True - The egg is a symbol of fertility and new beginnings, but was used as a symbol way before the life of Jesus Christ and was merely adopted into Christianity and not in any directly connected to the resurrection of Christ.

Q8. Easter is the most important festival in the Christian calendar?

False - There is no mention of the festival of Easter being required or even celebrated in the Bible and therefore no scriptural significance can be placed upon it, in either the Jewish or the Christian calendar. If anything we should be celebrating the Passover rather than Easter, though the Gentiles are no longer required to observe the Jewish feasts.

Q9. The 40 days of lent was derived directly from the 40 days that Jesus spent in the wilderness?

False - The 40 days of abstinence was borrowed from the worshippers of a Babylonian goddess. Lent is not connected to the death and crucifixion of Christ, and neither are Christians commanded to observe 40 days of fasting.

Q10. The Easter Lily is a pagan symbol associated with reproductive organs?

True - The Easter Lily has long been revered by pagans of various lands, linked to several goddesses and fertility, long before the resurrection of Christ.

With thanks to our friends at www.biblequizzes.org.uk



SPRING HARVEST IS THIS MONTH. AND WITH IT THE START OF THE OPEN-AIR PREACHING SEASON.

THE DEVIL DOES NOT LOVE FIELD-PREACHING!

By the Rev'd Dr Herbert McGonigle, principal of Nazarene Theological College, Manchester.

In 18th century England preaching in the open air was unknown- until George Whitefield and John and Charles Wesley initiated it. John Wesley began this ministry in Bristol in 1739 and he kept it up for more than fifty years. If Wednesday May 24th 1738 marks the date of his spiritual heart-warming, then Monday 2nd April 1739 marks the beginning of what he always called "field -preaching".

At four in the afternoon that day he stood up in a brickyard in Bristol and preached to about three thousand people from the words of Luke 4:18. "The spirit of the Lord is upon me because he has anointed me to preach..." What a prophetic text it was! Fifty one and a half years later, under an Ash tree in Winchelsea in Sussex, at the age of 87, Wesley preached his last open-air sermon from Mk1:15, "Repent and believe the gospel".

He preached in fields, in barns, on hillsides, at market crosses, in town and city streets and at pit heads from Durham to Cornwall. All over the country you can still find scores of notices carrying the date when "John Wesley preached here".

Wesley began this field -preaching, and continued it, because it was the most effective way to reach the people with the gospel. He believed himself called of God to this demanding ministry and he gave himself to it with undivided zeal and dedication. On almost any day during these fifty years, Wesley would travel twenty or thirty miles on horseback, in all weathers, and preach at least twice out of doors.

In one of his journal entries for June 1759, he wrote of why he practised field-preaching. "I preached abroad to twice the people we should have had at the house (i.e. the preaching house). What marvel the devil does not love field-preaching! Neither do I. I love a commodious room, a soft cushion, a handsome pulpit. But where is my zeal if I do not trample all these underfoot in order to save one more soul?"

Field-preaching worked! On this occasion twice as many heard the gospel as would have done if Wesley had preached indoors. As Paul said of his ministry, "I have become all things to all men that I might by all means save some" (1Cor.9:22)As twenty first century Christians, we, too, must seek to reach our generation with the gospel "by all means".

CALLED TO BE YOU

Vocation Sunday, the fourth Sunday of Easter, is the Sunday set aside in the Church's calendar to encourage all of us to think about our vocation. So, what is your vocation? You may think that you don't have a vocation or that vocations are the sort of thing clergy have. But if you think that, you're wrong. Each of us does have a vocation. God calls each one of us. the question, though, is to what ?

First and foremost, God calls us to change to become more Christ like. We are called to live out our lives in response to the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. That process began in our baptism, but it continuous through prayer, through the reading of the scriptures and through the receiving of Holy Communion. One of the constant themes in the New Testament is that lives touched by Christ were changed. What is true for the characters of the New Testament is true for us. As we encounter and respond to Christ we cannot help but be changed.

But while we are called to change, we are also called to be more deeply ourselves. God never calls us to be something or someone we're not. God always calls us to what we are capable of becoming. It may be that there are parts of us which are underdeveloped or which rarely see the light of day which need to be allowed to flourish so we can be our true selves.

It may be that we have hidden gifts which need to be discovered or it may be that there is something that we have secretly always wanted to do but have not had the courage or the time to try. Whatever it may be we need to find an outlet which will allow us to feel more excited about life or indeed to feel more alive.

St Irenaeus wrote that "the glory of God is a human being fully alive". Through the dual process of becoming more fully ourselves and of becoming more fully Christ-like, the will of God is fulfilled and the glory of God seen. That is what Vocation Sunday is about. You have one life. For God's sake and for your own, live it !

Stephen Ferns - from the Church of England website



Easter Quotes

Easter is the demonstration of God that life is essentially spiritual and timeless. - [Charles M. Crowe](#)

The story of Easter is the story of God's wonderful window of divine surprise. - [Carl Knudsen](#)

Easter tells us that life is to be interpreted not simply in terms of things but in terms of ideals. - [Charles M. Crowe](#)

Easter says you can put truth in a grave, but it won't stay there. - [Clarence W. Hall](#)

Easter so longed for is gone in a day. - [James Howell](#)

Easter says you can put truth in a grave, but it won't stay there. - [Clarence W. Hall](#)

On Easter Day the veil between time and eternity thins to gossamer. - [Douglas Horton](#)

Easter spells out beauty, the rare beauty of new life. - [S.D. Gordon](#)

EASTER HOT CROSS BUNS

As you indulge in your Easter hot cross buns this year, pause to consider that really, a hot cross bun is a symbol of the Resurrection which refuses to go stale. A hot cross bun is a sermon in itself.

The shape of the bun reminds us of the stone that rolled away early on that first Easter morning- not to let a living Lord out, but to allow his disciples to discover an empty tomb.

And the special spices used in the baking process bring to mind the gifts of love brought by faithful women to anoint their Master's body.

The fruits of the Spirit of Jesus in the lives of His followers are represented by the sultanas and currents that make the buns so delicious and the cross is the triumphant emblem of Christ's work completed on earth.

TWO THOUSAND SPRINGS by Nigel Beeton

In a world of sharp contrast, of joy and despair
It's hard to be certain- does God really care?
We see the new blossom, hear ambulance wail
the smoke of the fire in the fair verdant vale
Hear sound of the gunfire, the baby's first cry.
See Austrian mountains, read Arbeit Macht Frei.
The song of the blackbird, the howl of deep pain,
And the widow's sharp tears in the soft April rain.

Yet nigh on two thousand long years have gone by
Since another poor woman saw her dearest friend die,
sharp too, were her tears of confusion and woe
as she to her master's cold tomb had to go.
But- to add to her burden, and deepen her care
She found to her horror - his body not there!
In sorrow she turned to a man who stood near,
And discovered alive, the one she held dear!

The rain eases off, but the widow weeps still,
Can such an old story cure such a fresh ill?
Yet, two thousand times since that day by the tomb,
Have autumn leaves dried, but spring blossoms bloomed.
Two thousand times have deep frosts and dark hours
Given way to bright fields of daffodil flowers.
In grief or confusion, our certain hope clings
To the story of life told by two thousand Springs.

Lancelot Fleming , Dean of Windsor is credited with the following :

O Lord, grant that we may not be like porridge
(stiff, stodgy and hard to stir)
but may be like cornflakes -
crisp, freshand ready to serve.

BUT there was this Scottish grace as a riposte:

O Lord, grant that we may not be like cornflakes
(lightweight, brittle and cold)
but may be like porridge -
warm, comforting, and full of natural goodness. Amen.

True Story

A Sunday School teacher recently asked her pupils "Does anyone know any of the miracles that Jesus performed?" One youngster put his hand up and said "Yes, He cured people who had leopards."

Door of Heaven

An exasperated mother, whose son was always getting into mischief, finally asked him, "How do you expect to get into heaven?"

The boy thought it over and said, "Well, I'll just run in and out and in and out and keep slamming the door until St Peter says "For heaven's sake, Dylan, come in or stay out!"

SOME HYMNS FOR PEOPLE OVER 50

Give me the Old Timers' Religion

Precious Lord, Take my hand and help me up

Just a slower walk with Thee

Go tell it on the mountain, But Speak Up

Nobody knows the trouble I have seeing

Guide Me O Thou Great Lord, I've Forgotten Where I've
Parked The Car

Count Your Many Birthdays, Count Them One By One

Blessed Insurance

It Is Well With My Soul, But My Knees Hurt

MPs in Heaven

At the pearly gates, St Peter greeted a minister and a member of Parliament and gave them their room keys. "Vicar, here are the keys to one of our nicest single rooms. And for you, Mr MP, the keys to our finest penthouse suite." When the vicar objected, St Peter explained: "Listen, minister are ten a penny up here, but this is the first MP we've ever seen".

What would Jesus do?

While waiting in line to check out at a Christian bookshop, a man in front of me asked the clerk about a display of hats with the letters WWJD on them. The clerk explained that WWJD stands for "What would Jesus do!" and that the idea is to get people to consider this question when making decisions. The man pondered a moment, then replied, "I don't think he'd pay £9.99 for that hat".

The Hungry Bear

A lifelong atheist was walking through the forest, and came across a bear. The bear began chasing him, and soon caught up. As the bear raised its paw to strike the fatal blow, the atheist forgot himself and cried out, "Oh, God"! Immediately the bear froze, the river stopped running, the wind fell silent, and an unearthly light shone. And out of the light came a voice: "You called?" Astonished the atheist stammered: "Dear God, I don't think I can ask you to help me become a Christian now, because I haven't believed in you all these years. But_ perhaps you could make this bear a Christian?"

And the voice said "Certainly" And the light faded, and the river started to run again, and the wind blew again, and the bear unfroze. Then the Christian bear lowered his threatening paw, put his paws together and said, devoutly: "For what we are about to receive may the Lord make us truly thankful. Amen."

Longfleet URC on the Internet

The Church has its own website which can be found at :

www.longfleeturc.org.uk

We also have a link to Broadstone URC and they have “linked” back to us which should mean that both websites will get more visitors.

The Church can now also be found on the popular where you can view contact details and photos.



... and finally

A big “thank you” to those at www.biblequizzes.org.uk for allowing us to continue to reproduce their quizzes on the website and here in the Newsletter.

There now follows the answer to last month’s Easter Quiz and Wordsearch plus some more quizzes to keep you amused !

Easter Quiz – The Death & Resurrection - ANSWERS

1: At Christ's crucifixion what did the soldiers place on his head?

Crown of Thorns

Matt 27:29 - They 'plaited' a crown of thorns which means 'woven together'. A crown was worn by kings and commonly made from precious stones and metals. To ridicule the idea that Jesus was a king they probably plucked up the nearest thorn-bush and made it into something resembling a royal crown to mock him further.

2: For what of Christ's did the soldiers cast lots?

Clothes

Matt 27:35 - A fulfilment of Ps 22:18

3: For how many pieces of silver did Judas betray Christ?

30

Matt 27:3

4: How did Judas betray Christ?

With a kiss

Luke 22:47-48 - Judas thought he could hide his betrayal in a sign of affection.

5: Christ was led away to which high priest first ?

Annas

John 18:13 - Although in Matthew's gospel record it is said that he was led away to Caiaphas, John gives us a little extra information. Annas for whatever reason was still recognised as a high priest (see Luke 3:2)

6: What was inscribed above the cross ?

King of the Jews

John 19:19

7: When Jesus died, for how long was there darkness over the land?

3 hours

Luke 23:44

8: What was the name of the man who requested Jesus' body for burial ?

Joseph

Matt 27:57-58 - Joseph, a rich man of Arimathaea

9: Who was first on the scene after resurrection of Christ ?

Mary Magdalene

John 20:1

10: Pilate offered to release one prisoner – which prisoner did the Jews request to be released ?

Barabbas

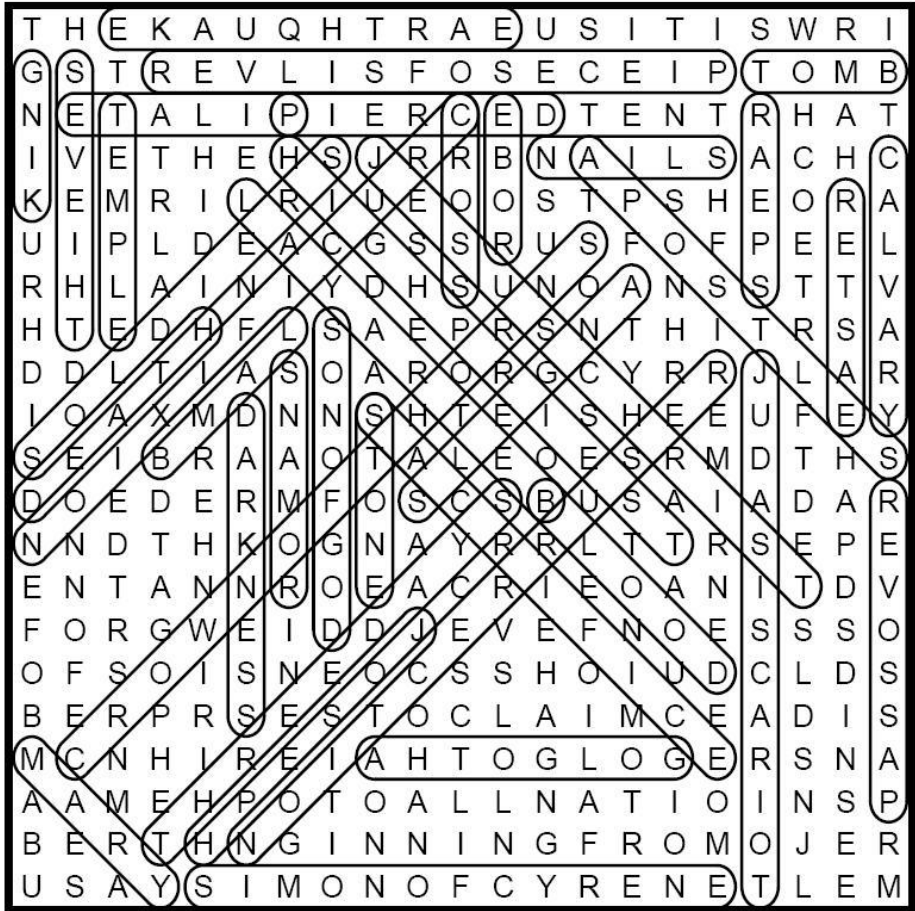
Matt 27:26 - This man was a representation of the type of people that Christ died for... the sinners.

How many did you get right ?

Easter Word Search - ANSWER

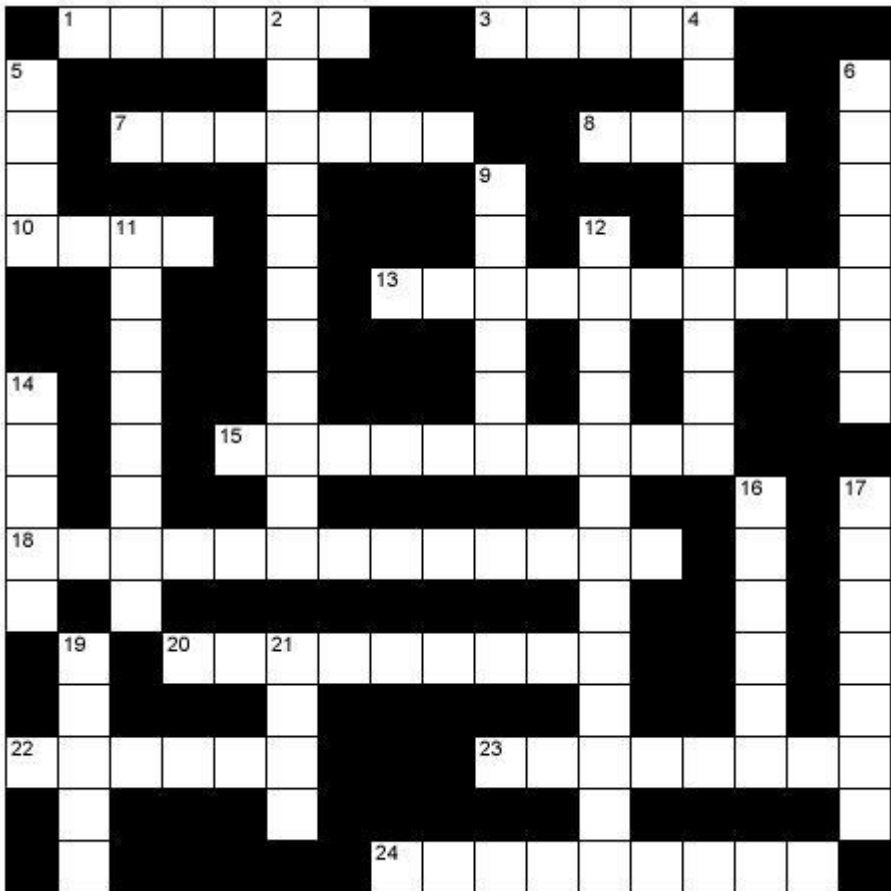
by Philologus

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Bible Crossword – The Sermon on the Mount

A crossword based on the Sermon on the Mount. This crossword uses the King James Version of the Bible.



Across

- 1 Not to be put under a bushel. (6)
- 3 Let yours shine before men! (5)
- 7 Moth and rust will do this to your earthly store. (7)
- 8 If you do this, you will find. (4)
- 10 These should not be done in view of men. (4)
- 13 The eight sayings by Christ at the beginning of his sermon. (10)
- 15 They sound trumpets in the streets when they are being charitable. (10)
- 18 The peacemakers will be called this. (8,2,3)
- 20 They were with Jesus when he gave the sermon. (9)
- 22 You can't serve God and this. (6)
- 23 Fellow believers. (8)
- 24 The earth is this to God. (9)

Down

- 2 Jesus gave this as example of how to communicate with God. (5,6)
- 4 Don't lay these upon the earth. (9)
- 5 Whoever says this to his brother shall be in danger of the council. (4)
- 6 Those who are given happiness and good fortune. (7)
- 9 When engaging in this, you should enter into your closet and shut the door. (6)
- 11 Where the sermon was given. (8)
- 12 You should search for this first, before worrying about food and clothing. (13)
- 14 What you should do to your eye if it offends. (5)
- 16 They which do this shall be filled. (6)
- 17 The hypocrites disfigured their faces while doing this. (7)
- 19 If you are forced to go a mile with someone, this is how far you should go. (5)
- 21 The foolish man built his house on this. (4)

Bible Maths Quiz 1

This is a Bible Maths quiz and each part of the question can be represented by a number and then, for example, multiplied or added with another part of the question to give the final answer. Answer the questions using only numerical characters (e.g. 50 - not fifty)

1. (Sons of Jacob) multiplied by (number of Jesus' disciples)
2. (Books of the Bible) minus (days of rain on Noah in his ark)
3. (Number of fish caught by Simon Peter in miraculous catch) plus (days of creation)
4. (Times that the priests walked round Jericho) multiplied by (plagues upon Egypt)
5. (Days that Jesus fasted in the wilderness) divided by (number of gospel writers)
6. ((Number of Psalms) plus (tribes of Israel)) all divided by (number of gifts brought to Jesus by the wise men)
7. (Number of people saved from the flood) multiplied by (number of others crucified with Christ)
8. (Age of David when he became King of Israel) plus (number of years that David reigned)
9. ((Number of times Naaman dipped himself in the River Jordan) minus (number of true Gods)) all multiplied by (pieces of silver that Jesus was betrayed for)
10. (Talents given out by the master in the parable) plus (virgins who had enough oil for their lamps) minus (number of gates of New Jerusalem)

Bible Ditloids (part 1)

A Ditloid is a type of puzzle where the answer is deduced from numbers and abbreviated letters. They are sometimes called letter equations.

For example 66 B of the B becomes 66 Books of the Bible. The name 'ditloid' was given by the Daily Express newspaper, originating from one of the first of this type of puzzle:

1 = DitLoID ? 1 Day in the Life of Ivan Denisovich.

1. 7 D of C

2. 150 P in the B

3. 27 B in the N T

4. 12 D of J

5. 13 P at the L S

6. 4 G in the B

7. 12 T of I

8. 10 P of E

9. 40 Y in the W

10. 5 S S

Thanks, as always, to our friends at www.biblequizzes.org.uk

LURC DATES – April

1st Maundy Thursday

2nd Good Friday

4th Easter Sunday - Communion Service The Rev'd Bryan George

5th Easter Monday

6th Epilepsy Society Meeting 6.30pm

7th SPRING Meeting 7pm

8th Prayer Meeting

12th Pilates morning session in the hall

11th Service Mr Jeff Russell St Mary's group in the hall

12th Monday LUNCH Club Afternoon meeting Age Concern

16th Pilates morning session

18th Service Revd Barry Cheetham St Mary's group in the hall

19th Monday LUNCH Club Afternoon meeting Age Concern

23rd Pilates Morning session

25th Service (TBC) St Mary's group in the hall

**26th Monday LUNCH Club Afternoon meeting Age Concern
Elders Meeting 4pm**

30th Pilates Morning session

