



# The Lion and The Dragon

A Monthly News Sheet for St. Mark's, Basford and St Margaret's, Wolstanton

[www.stmarksbasford.co.uk](http://www.stmarksbasford.co.uk) and [www.stmargaretswolstanton.org](http://www.stmargaretswolstanton.org)

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This is Truth, so Sing to the LORD, sing a New Song!

*'Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here...go, tell his disciples...there you will see him, just as he told you.'*

*So they went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid. (from the end of Mark's Gospel, chapter 16)*

Beloved,

I write this in the middle of Lent, but I'm writing for the upcoming season of Easter, that's right, it isn't just a day, it is a season of 40 days until the great Feast of His Ascension (in fact, it's really 50 days if you take it to Pentecost!) There really will be many Mini-Eggs consumed over the season, at the Vicarage!

There are many different stories and accounts of the first Easter, Jesus kept coming back to different people and in different ways – Mary in the garden, doubting Thomas, BBQ on the beach, a great catch of fish, the Emmaus Road...

I'm always intrigued by the rather sad, sudden, bleak and disheartening Resurrection account from the end of Mark's Gospel. An 'angel' offers the women a great mystery and yet they go away frightened and speak to no-one. It's quite bizarre,

and I can think of many books that end far better! Thankfully this can't have been the only truth, and it is certainly not how the story finishes – and we are the reason for that, we are the results, we are the proof. Because the first disciples heard and spread the news, we have hope, and we have lives that have been changed forever. So we must pass it on. We need to go out and tell the world (well at least tell the folk of Basford and Wolstanton).

Through the Scriptures of Lent and Easter, we interact with some really interesting characters of the Bible, as we re-live the Passion narratives we recall that fascinating man, whose name we do not know – we just know him as a Centurion. He stands as a witness to what he thinks is simply the death of man, but in his experience of the crucifixion, he is shown the truth, for as he looks at the dead body with confidence and astonishment, he speaks most fabulously, the words that tell us all what we need to know of the man we preach and know: "Truly this man, was God's Son."

In a few days time I will shout "Alleluia, Christ is Risen" and really it is a question? – A question of truth and a question for you to decide, for you to be like the Centurion, to be like Mary of Magdala, to be like the penitent thief, to be like the disciple, that God has called you to be.

My dear brothers and sisters, I pray that your loud, lively and passionate answer will be

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"HE is risen indeed, Alleluia!" As together we shall sing a new song, a song of glory, a song of life, a song of Resurrection power, a song of truth, for that great day, that the LORD has made, is in our midst.

May you have a Holy Lent, a Glorious Passiontide, A life-changing Holy Week, And when it arrives, a very Happy and Joyful Easter, ALLELUIA!

*Blessings, In Christ  
Your Shepherd, Fr Tommy*

### Worship Services during April

*(St Mark's, Basford (B), St Margaret's, Wolstanton (W))*

<b>2<sup>nd</sup></b>	<b>Palm Sunday</b>	<b>9.30am</b>	<b>Holy Communion (B)</b>
		<b>11.15am</b>	<b>Mass (W)</b>
<i>3<sup>rd</sup></i>	<i>Holy Fig Monday</i>	<i>7.00pm</i>	<i>Holy Communion (B)</i>
<i>4<sup>th</sup></i>	<i>Holy Temple Tuesday</i>	<i>12.00pm</i>	<i>Holy Communion (W)</i>
<i>5<sup>th</sup></i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>10.30am</i>	<i>Holy Communion (BCP) (B)</i>
<i>6<sup>th</sup></i>	<i>Maundy Thursday</i>	<i>7.00pm</i>	<i>HC + foot washing (B)</i>
		<i>7.00pm</i>	<i>HC + foot washing (W)</i>
<i>7<sup>th</sup></i>	<i>Good Friday</i>	<i>12.00pm</i>	<i>The Liturgy of Good Friday (W)</i>
		<i>2.00pm</i>	<i>The Last hour liturgy (B)</i>
<i>8<sup>th</sup></i>	<i>Holy Saturday</i>	<i>7.00pm</i>	<i>Easter Vigil (B)</i>
<b>9<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Easter Sunday</b>	<b>9.30am</b>	<b>Holy Communion (B)</b>
		<b>11.15am</b>	<b>Mass (W)</b>
<i>10<sup>th</sup></i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>12.00pm</i>	<i>Holy Communion (B)</i>
<i>11<sup>th</sup></i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>2.00pm</i>	<i>Holy Communion (W)</i>
<i>12<sup>th</sup></i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>10.30am</i>	<i>Holy Communion (BCP) (B)</i>
<i>13<sup>th</sup></i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>10.00am</i>	<i>Holy Communion (W)</i>
<i>14<sup>th</sup></i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>10.30am</i>	<i>Holy Communion (B)</i>
<i>15<sup>th</sup></i>	<i>Saturday</i>	<i>10.30am</i>	<i>Holy Communion (B)</i>
<b>16<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> of Easter</b>	<b>9.30am</b>	<b>Family worship + Baptism (B)</b>
		<b>11.15am</b>	<b>Mass (W)</b>
		<b>1.00pm</b>	<b>Baptism (W)</b>
<i>19<sup>th</sup></i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>10.30am</i>	<i>Holy Communion (BCP) (B)</i>
<b>23<sup>rd</sup></b>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> of Easter</b>	<b>9.30am</b>	<b>Holy Communion (B)</b>
		<b>11.15am</b>	<b>Mass (W)</b>
<i>26<sup>th</sup></i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>10.30am</i>	<i>Holy Communion (BCP) (B)</i>
<b>30<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>4<sup>th</sup> of Easter</b>	<b>9.30am</b>	<b>Holy Communion (B)</b>
		<b>11.15am</b>	<b>Mass (W)</b>
		<b>1.00pm</b>	<b>Baptism (W)</b>

### Holy Week and Easter:

Please make sure you have your copy of the Holy Week and Easter booklet to guide you through the various services and activities in both churches.

### Diary Dates for April

4 <sup>th</sup>	Tuesday	7.00pm	Lent Film
17 <sup>th</sup>	Monday	10.00am	Ministry team meeting (B)
17 <sup>th</sup>	Monday	7.00pm	Baptism Prep (B)
22 <sup>nd</sup>	Saturday	1.00pm	Soup and Bingo (B)
25 <sup>th</sup>	Tuesday	6.30pm	HC + APCM meeting (B)
29 <sup>th</sup>	Saturday	1.00pm	Makers Market (B)

### Early May Dates

7 <sup>th</sup>	Sunday	<b>10.00am</b>	Confirmation (B) (No service at St Margarets)
20 <sup>th</sup>	Saturday	12.00pm	Wedding (B)

### Ecumenical Service of the Wolstanton Churches

On Monday of Holy Week (3rd April) at 10.00am we will begin at St Wulstan's Roman Catholic Church, Wolstanton following a short service we shall then walk to St Margaret's and then onto Wolstanton Methodist Church. There will be a short act of worship in each church, and we shall finish with coffee and hot cross buns.

### Devotional Film

This year's devotional film on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> April at St Marks church at 7.00pm will be 'The Shack' which is a 2017 American Christian drama based on the 2007 novel of the same name by William P. Young.



### Spring clean

It's that time of year where we fling open the windows and have a good clean and sort out. So if you would like to help please join us on 8<sup>th</sup> April in both churches at 10.00am. Remember many hands make light work.

### Easter flowers

As Easter approaches anyone wishing to make a donation towards the Easter flowers at St Mark's please speak to Pat Roberts.

### Soup and Bingo

Back by popular demand, on 22<sup>nd</sup> April our Soup and Bingo at St Mark's church hall. Come and join us at 1pm for only £5 with the first game free.