

NEWSLETTER

ALL SAINTS, SCRAPTOFT & NETHERHALL - April 2024

Living in the light of the Resurrection

It's hard to believe that Easter 2024 is already here. Lent and Easter this year, it has to be said, could hardly have been earlier, so it's understandable that there might be a sense of haste in everything that has happened so far. And this hurried Lent has had as its background the theme of **Tarrying with God** from different perspectives.



The first week, from Ash Wednesday, used *Waiting in Darkness* to focus our thoughts as we learned about waiting on God through the difficulties of life. *Unity* was the theme of the first full week - looking at how all of us, as God's people, might grow in unity and wholeness.

Week 2 focused on *Movement* while tarrying/waiting on God. We continue to move while we wait, because God is always at work, always moving, and we need to learn what it is to move with God as we journey together.

The Holy Spirit grabbed our attention in week 3, as we explored how the Spirit works - with power, whilst often disrupting our lives and deepening our relationship with Jesus and bringing us together as God's people. The 4th week helped us look at *Quiet*, learning what role this played in the lives of Moses, Elijah, Job, Jonah, and Jeremiah. We particularly looked at how, even when we think God is silent, He is always at work - our eyes are simply not always open to His ways.

Week 5 brought us to explore *Healing*, how it involves mind and body, physical and spiritual. The Christian journey needs healing in all ways: we need the healing power of the Spirit, we need healing of the mind and body, and society as a whole needs to be healed. But to be healed we need to reach out for this grace as Jesus offers himself to us.

The final week brought us to look at *Weeping*, being reminded that at important times Jesus wept, Judas wept, Peter wept, Mary wept and all creation weeps in the face of the realities around us. But these 6 weeks of reading and study bring us not to despair, but to celebration and rejoicing, as we acknowledge Christ's victory over death and sin - a victory we too can experience as we tarry with God throughout our lives.

I pray that this Easter will bring you all such confidence in your faith.

Fr Martin

April Diary

2nd	10.00am	Coffee Pop-in
3rd	12.00pm	NO Eucharist
6th	10.00am	Coffee Morning
7th	EASTER 2	
	10.00am	Sung Eucharist
9th	10.00am	Coffee Pop-in
10th	12.00pm	Eucharist
	7.00pm	Confirmation Group
14th	EASTER 3	
	10.00am	Sung Eucharist
16th	10.00am	Coffee pop-in
17th	12.00pm	Eucharist
	7.00pm	Confirmation Group
20th	12.00pm	Fr Andrew Lee's 25th Anniversary Mass - <i>St Hugh, Eyres Monsell</i>
21st	EASTER 4	
	10.00am	Sung Eucharist
	6.00pm	ECO Group
23rd	10.00am	Coffee Pop-in
24th	12.00pm	Eucharist
	7.00pm	Confirmation Group
27th	10.00am	Planters' Fair
28th	EASTER 5	
	10.00am	Sung Eucharist
30th	10.00am	Coffee Pop-in



Confirmation Preparation

Please hold the following in your prayers as they begin the process of preparing for Confirmation and full membership of Christ's Church.

Karan Askew

Keely Askew

Alison Gardner



It is always a privilege for me to help people on their journey with Jesus, but it is also one for everyone in the congregation, as we all play our part in welcoming and encouraging and, not least, praying for candidates.

Minster Community News

Just to keep you all informed of current progress in the task of trying to create a North East Leicester Minster Community.

It has to be said, this is proving tricky, not because as different churches we don't like each other or don't want to support each other, but because there are very significant issues of tradition and belief that are proving to be substantial hurdles.

The Proposal Writing Group, of which I am one, will meet after Easter to try to put some more 'flesh on the bones' of a very thin first draft which stated what we can definitely do together. However, the question we have to tackle is: can we find enough on which to build a fruitful working relationship between all the churches?

Please keep everyone involved in your prayers, as what eventually comes as a Proposal, if accepted and agreed by all the churches, will be incredibly important for all of us as we look to our futures.

Fr Martin