

THE PARISHES OF ST MARGARET AND  
ST MARK DUNHAM MASSEY

Easter Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> April 2020

## Newsletter and Weekly Prayer Sheet



### Easter Sunday Reflections

#### **A Happy Easter to you all.**

**CHRIST IS RISEN, HE IS RISEN INDEED** (shout to me, bit louder I didn't hear you.)

I, as Warden had the privilege of being able to go into St Marks to create the video sent out on the Church web page. A very peaceful time for me to gather my thoughts.

I hope you were able to shout back to me this Easter Sunday morning, a very different one for us to experience as I am here on my own making this proclamation to you and for you. I lit the candle to show Jesus light in the world.

I wonder what the reaction was from those who went to the tomb, shock, unbelief. I wonder how long it took for them to realise that Jesus had prophesied all this and that the resurrection had actually taken place.

Someone I know gave me a small report of her trip to Jerusalem and she had experienced the quietness of the normally busy streets. They were strangely quiet and eerie. A bit like we are experiencing with our villages or towns now. Much, much quieter than normal. We are living with uncertainty about what today's news will bring. But we are sure of one thing, grounded in a certain hope, grounded in Jesus Christ, his death and resurrection. As Christians we live in that hope and pray for brighter days to dawn for us.

May you be the light, in our world as Christ is for us.

Bless you all this Easter Day and always, Have a Happy Easter with all your families.

All good wishes from The Bothy,

**Alan, Warden.**

### **Prayer for Easter Sunday;**

*God of Promise and God of Hope,  
who through your great mercy  
have granted us new birth  
through the death and resurrection  
of Jesus Christ,  
we praise your wonderful name!  
God of Glory and God of Might  
who through your great power  
have granted us new strength  
to endure all things through faith  
in Christ our risen King,  
we praise your wonderful name! **AMEN***

### The Collect

Lord of all life and power,  
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.

### Readings

Acts 10, 34-43

John 10, 1-18

Please log onto the church website –  
[www.dunhamchurch.com](http://www.dunhamchurch.com) – for a short  
service to celebrate Easter Sunday.

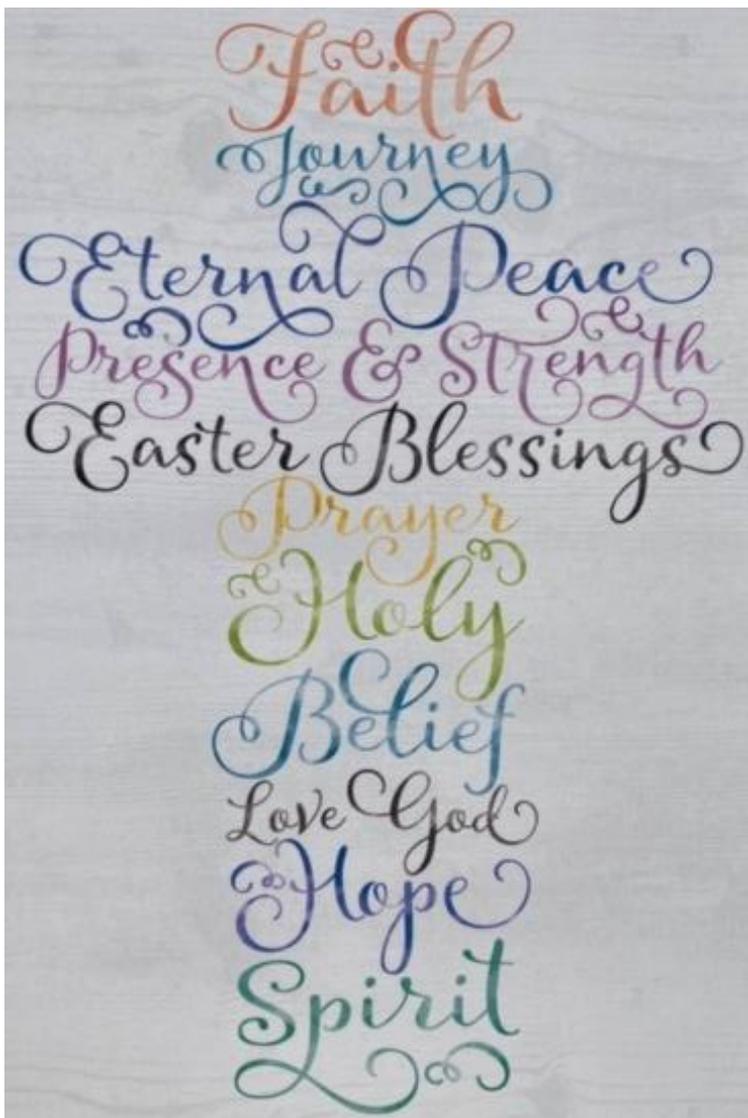
## Looking for the resurrection

With Christians worldwide we are celebrating the story on which our faith stands: the Resurrection. Without the Resurrection – the events and experiences of that first Easter there would be no Church, no faith held by millions .. and little hope. A baby born in a manger, a Rabbi travelling the roads of Galilee are not enough in themselves to account for the continuing faith of Christians. The Church is founded on faith in the Risen Christ.

Over Easter we read the gospel accounts of that first Easter. For me one of the most meaningful verses in these is Matthew 28: 6 “He is not here”. The disciples are looking among the tombs for their Lord. The angel – a message from God – tells them that it is not there that they will find him, but in Galilee - amid their homes and places of work, their families, amid the ups and downs of daily life. Today the message is the same. We cannot experience what those first disciples experienced, but we can find resurrection today in our own lives. It is not simply what happened in a garden of tombs two thousand years ago, but it is resurrection as hope and new beginnings, in all kinds of ways. And how we need that hope and faith today in all that surrounds us. We proclaim not “Christ Rose” as simply a past event but “Christ Is Risen” as a present reality. He is not in an Easter garden ... he is among us today, our Risen Lord. I pray that whatever your situation in all the challenges of these times you will find him, that he will give you hope, that you will know his love.

With every blessing for Easter

**Keith Hine**



Should you need the help of a Minister  
Reverend Keith Hine can be contacted at :-

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Should you need help or support :-  
Pastoral Care Team

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### Book Review For Easter

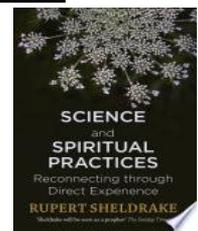
*'Science and Spiritual Practices;*

*by Rupert Shel Drake*

In this pioneering work Shel Drake shows seven practices that are at the heart of all faiths;

*Meditation, gratitude, connecting with nature, relating to plants, rituals, singing and chanting, pilgrimage and holy places.* He highlights the way that scientific research shows the benefits of these practices.

The book is for anyone who suspects that in the drive for radical secularism something valuable has been left behind. Shel Drake asserts that by embracing spiritual practice we find strength to live more wholesome and fulfilling lives.



**Hope to see you soon.**