

Apr-Jun 2009

Newsletter




Thought - "Easter Thought"

A lot has happened in the last twelve months. The UK, along with the rest of the world, is feeling the effects of the credit crunch. People all over the country have lost their jobs and homes. Those fortunate enough to have a job and a home still live with a feeling of uncertainty about the future.

Maybe Christmas didn't feel like much of a celebration for all of us. Did the rising cost of living mean it was something else to spend money on that you couldn't afford?

As soon as we've finished with Christmas, we notice the supermarket shelves stacked high with chocolate eggs and gifts, heralding the fast approach of Easter. Traditionally this too is a time for celebration and family get-togethers. You may have at least two days off work, or even longer, with a promise of warmer weather and children being on holiday. Is Easter something you're looking forward to or does it add to your list of things to worry about?

Local churches hold various services over the Easter weekend but why do Christians want to celebrate this event every year?

While Easter is seen as a time to remember Jesus' death on the cross, the main part of the story that brings hope and joy to Christians worldwide is remembering that Jesus was also resurrected.

Jesus told us this **"God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life."** (John 3v16)

This passage is special to many Christians as it reminds us that God has promised us a secure future with him. Just as Jesus rose from the dead so will we! This knowledge also gives us strength for today in the here and now, to cope with the worries in our lives, because we know we have a God who loves us and cares for us all the time. This gives us a lot to celebrate both at Easter and through the whole year.

In Focus - Sunday Lunch

If you enjoy good food and good company, we'd love to see you for lunch, held every Sunday from 12:45. (in building across car park)

The room is full of chatter, of tables and of chairs.

*With many smiling faces, when you catch them unawares.
The little ones all free from crèche, run up and down with joy.
And babes in arms join in the fun, with every girl and boy.
As the helpers in the kitchen, prepare the meal in hand.
We all stand for thanksgiving, then consume the food that's planned.
We are just one huge family, and that is simply grand. (Nancy Fuller)*

Easter services:

Palm Sunday Family Service **5th April (2:45 p.m.)** Good Friday **10th April (7 p.m.)**
Easter Sunday **12th April (6 p.m.)**

Easter Egg Stravaganza: (Mon 6th April 10 am-12)



What's On?

(At Henrietta St. unless otherwise stated)

Activity morning for children from reception to year 6. To book phone 973 6145

Come and find out what Easter is really all about.

Sunday evening Services at 2:45 **1st Sunday of the month** and 6:00 pm at other times.

DATE	SUBJECT
5-Apr	Jesus: the king - Palm Sunday
12-Apr	Jesus: the saviour - Easter
19-Apr	Jesus: the proof - Resurrection
26-Apr	Own Subject
3-May	Fellowship Weekend
10-May	Why does God allow suffering
17-May	Learning to...love Mercy

DATE	SUBJECT
24-May	Christian faith and Medical Ethics; is there a conflict?
31-May	God's perspective on the news
7-Jun	What do Christians do... Praise
14-Jun	The Devil - what is it
21-Jun	The Devil - so what?
28-Jun	Are religious people hypocrites?
5-Jul	Afternoon of Praise

Regulars:

- Sunday
 - Breaking of Bread Service 10:30 a.m.
 - Youth Church 2:45 p.m. (From Kids aged 3 up to Adult Discussion Group)
 - Evening Service 2:45 p.m. or 6:00 p.m. (See above for details)
- Tuesday
 - Junior Youth club 6:45 p.m.
 - "The Bible Course" 7:15 p.m. at Chorlton Adult Education Centre
- Thursday
 - "Playtime" Parent & Toddler group 10am-12pm (Term time only)
 - Bible Class 8:00 p.m.
- Friday
 - Senior Youth Club 7:30 p.m.

NOTE: Coffee Morning 10:30 a.m. till 12:00 (On Wed before Easter, Tue after Easter)

Web site: www.thebethel.org Email: info@thebethel.org