



CHRIST CHURCH  
CROUCH END HILL  
LONDON N8 8AX  
**CROSSLINKS**

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EASTER BUMPER EDITION

**WHO WILL ROLL THE STONE AWAY?**

## Vicar's ten - minute reflection WHO WILL ROLL THE STONE AWAY.



I wonder what might have occupied the thoughts of the women that first Easter Sunday? They might have been pondering... The miraculous birth of Jesus...The miracles and ministry...The growing tension and animosity against Him...Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem...His arrest and suffering...The Crucifixion and His burial. They must have remembered Christ's last dying words upon the cross, the quaking of the earth, rocks splitting open and those scary events. Now early on Sunday morning as they neared the tomb, with all these thoughts swirling around in their heads, they ask each other, "Who will roll the stone away?"

These women had come to the tomb prepared to care for a dead body. They wanted only to be of service, to apply ointment to the wounds after the damage of violence and fear had already been done. They had come thinking that their leader had died for a good cause. He was a good man, a great teacher, a charismatic leader and now, like so many of his kind who give hope to the poor and the despairing, he had been killed by those in power.

He was a good man and now he was dead. But they wanted to honour him. To pay homage to him, by giving him some dignity in death. The question on their lips that morning was nothing profoundly theological or philosophical. It was not about the meaning of his life or what they should do to carry out his mission. The question on their lips was a practical one. 'Who will roll away the stone for us?' The women wanted to anoint the body, but the stone in front of the tomb was very large.

'Who will roll away the stone for us?'

Perhaps this is our question as well on this Easter morning. We, too, have come to pay homage to a great teacher, a charismatic leader, a good man. We come to give honour to Jesus, but we also come with questions on our lips.

Who will roll away the stone for us? Who will roll away the stone of sorrow from the dark tomb of our losses? Who? Who will roll away the stone of bitterness from the dark tomb of our failures? Who? Who will roll away the stone of cynicism from the dark tomb of our jaded vision of the world? Who?



Who will roll away the stone of indifference from the dark tomb of the world's suffering? Who? Who will roll away the stone of grief from the dark tomb of our broken hearts and broken relationships? Who?

When we arrive in church on Easter Sunday we are still part of a Good Friday world. A world where terrorists feel no regret for massive loss of life and our future is as uncertain as the British weather. A Good Friday world where our own lives know the heartache of death, the agony of failure and the misery of broken spirits.

Maybe we have lost jobs or loved ones; or maybe we have hurt and been hurt; or maybe we have grown cynical about the future or joyless in the present. How can we open the large, dark tombs of our lives that hold all our sorrow and anxiety and brokenness and loss? How can we open the large, dark tombs of the world that hold humanity's lowest moments and worst cruelties? Who among us doesn't know how heavy the stone is that seals in the anguish of our lives?

So, like the women, we come with this question on our breath, 'Who will roll away the stone for us?'

And yet, if we come asking, 'Who will roll away the stone for us?' then don't we also come with a glimmer of hope? Underneath the question there lurks a desire to dare to trust; to trust that there is an Easter morning power that can roll away the biggest stone and empty the darkest tomb and let in the light.

'When the women looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back.' Friends, believe the good news of the gospel: God can roll away the stones that have sealed our world and our souls in sin and grief and loss.

When the women arrived at the tomb, the stone was already gone. They didn't have to do anything except show up to witness it. God had already done the work of rolling back the stone. God had already made a way where there was no way.

Are we ready to show up? Are we ready to bear witness to God's power to roll away the stones guarding the hurts of our lives?

Continued on page 6

**Who will roll away the stone of sorrow from the dark tomb of our losses? Who? Who will roll away the stone of bitterness from the dark tomb of our failures?**

## ARE YOU A REAL MAN? FIND OUT



A real man includes his wife in envisioning the future.

A real man accepts spiritual responsibility for his family

A real man is willing to say "I'm sorry" and "forgive me" to his family.

A real man discusses household responsibilities with his wife and makes sure they are fully distributed.

A real man seeks the consultation of his wife on all major financial decisions.

A real man follows through with commitments he has made to his wife

A real man frequently tells his wife what he likes about her.

A real man deals with distractions so he can unite with his wife and family.

A real man prays with his wife on a regular basis.

A real man initiates meaningful family traditions

A real man initiates family outings for the family on a regular basis

A real man takes the time to give his children practical instruction about life, which in turn gives them confidence with their peers.

A real man keeps his family financially sound and out of harmful debt.

A real man makes sure he and his wife have drawn up a will and arranged a well-conceived plan for their children in case of death.

A real man lets his wife and children into the interior of his life.

A real man honours his wife often in public

A real man encourages his wife to grow as an individual and provides time for his wife to pursue her own personal interests.

## HELP FOR DISCOURAGED PARENTS

You are not to blame for the temperament with which your child was born. He is simply a tough kid to handle and your task is to rise to the challenge.

He is in great danger because of his inclination to test the limits and scale the walls. Your utmost diligence and wisdom will be required to deal with him.

If you fail to understand his lust for power and independence, you can exhaust your resources and bog down in guilt. It will benefit no one.

If it is not already too late, by all means, take charge of your babies. Hold tightly to the reins of authority in the early days, and build an attitude of respect during your brief window of opportunity. You will need every ounce of "awe" you can get during the years to come. Once you have established your right to lead, begin to let go systematically, year by year.

Don't panic, even during the storms of adolescence. Better times are ahead. A radical turnaround usually occurs in the early twenties.

Stay on your child's team, even when it appears to be a losing team. You'll have the rest of your life to enjoy mutual fellowship if you don't overreact to frustration now.

Give him time to find himself, even if he appears not to be searching.

Most importantly, I urge you to hold your children before the Lord in fervent prayer throughout their years at home. I am confident that there is no other source of confidence and wisdom in parenting.

Adapted from '*Parenting is not for cowards*' by James Dobson

## Who will roll the stone away? (From page 3)

On Easter Sunday about 2000 years ago Jesus Christ was resurrected. He is not dead, He is ALIVE! If there was no resurrection, we are still lost in our sins, without hope in this world. The resurrection means many things. We will look at a few of them:

It Proves that Jesus is absolutely TRUSTWORTHY! It confirms that God was pleased and accepted the SACRIFICE of His Son! It affirms that Resurrection POWER is available to you and me!

The resurrection has broken the shackles of sin! All the resources of Heaven are on our side; Power to enter into a new relationship with God; Power to be born again through faith; Power to live a victorious life in Christ; Victory over addictions, bondage to sin; Power to overcome difficulties, hurts, and pains. Power over the stresses & worry of life; Power to understand our purpose for living; Power over our enemy - Satan and his hordes of demons! Resurrection Power affords us protection, power to witness to others and to be a living testimony of God's Grace. We receive power over darkness as we are translated into the Kingdom of Light. We receive the power to be resurrected someday ourselves and to live with Christ throughout eternity!

You can experience Resurrection Power Today! The apostle Paul spoke of the Resurrection Power this way...(Cor 15:3-4) For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance; that Christ Jesus died for our sins according to the scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the scriptures...' This is the GOSPEL - the Good News! The death, burial, and the resurrection of our Lord Jesus!

Resurrection Power begins the moment you give your life to Christ. Perhaps you have never understood the resurrection this way before.

But you desire to have resurrection power in your life today. What do you need to do? You need to understand four simple facts:

1. I am a sinner.
2. The penalty for my sin is death.
3. Jesus died to pay the penalty for my sins.
4. By faith call upon the Lord to be saved from sin.

## Who will roll the stone away? (From page 6)

"Father, thank you for what Jesus did at Calvary. Today I admit that I am a sinner. I realize the penalty for my sin is death. But I also realize that Jesus died in my place, He bore my sins to bring me forgiveness and to make me right with you. Father, forgive me. I turn away from my sins to follow you. In Jesus' name, Amen."

But Easter also asks us to do something: "But he said to them, 'Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him. 7But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you.'" (Mark 16: 6-8, NRSV)

If we are like the women who were at the tomb to pay homage to a dead man, a good man, but one long gone, we can continue to honour him, to worship in his name and try to live as he taught. We can ask ourselves, "What would Jesus do?" and we can teach our children stories about his love. We can serve him well, this dead man, just as those first women came to serve him one last time on that first Easter morning.

But what if we are asked to do more than give honour to a great teacher? What if we are challenged to do more than pass on an ethic of love and justice which he showed us? What if we are called to believe that, in Christ, God was turning the world upside-down and inside-out? What if we are asked to believe that, through him, God has given us the power to overcome every form of death we know, in this world and the next?

What Easter asks us to accept is that Christ did not leave the world, but continues to be present in it, through a death-defying power that can overcome every kind of tomb we encounter in our lives. The resurrection of Jesus from the grave on Easter morning defies our logic. It offends our intelligence. It refuses to make sense.

'He has been raised. He is not here.'

That is the impossible message the women heard when they dared to look past the rolled back stone.

(continued on page 10)

## APRIL AND MAY SERVICES

<u>Date</u>	<u>10:30AM</u>	<u>6:00PM</u>
1st APR	<b>(HC)</b> Hosanna Today Zech. 9: 9-12; John 12: 20 - 33	SERVICE OF 7 LESSONS AND PASSIONTIDE MUSIC
5th APR	<b>7:30pm (HC)</b> SPECIAL SERVICE - MAUNDY THURSDAY	
6th APR	<b>12:15pm -1.00pm - OPEN WITNESS AT THE B.WAY</b> <b>1pm - 3pm - SPECIAL SERVICE - GOOD FRIDAY</b>	
8th APR	<b>EASTER SUNDAY</b> <b>(HC)</b> Who will roll the stone away? Acts 10: 34-43; Mark 16: 1 - 8	The Empty Tomb (John 20:1-18)
15th APR	<b>(MP with Baptism)</b> Peace be with you 1 John 1:1-2; 2; John 20: 19-end	<b>Evening Worship</b> Family Favourites (Gen. 37:1-11)
22nd APR	<b>(MP)</b> Emmaus Walk Luke 24:13-35	<b>When wrong seems right</b> (Gen. 37:12-36)
29th APR	<b>(HS)</b> The blessed ones Luke 7:18-28	A significant interlude (Gen. 38)
6th MAY	(CONFIRMATION SERVICE)	No evening service
13th MAY	<b>(MP)</b> Faith in the Son of God 1 John 5:1-12	With God in the depths (Gen. 40:1-23)

**Note: (HC) - indicates Holy Communion (Common Worship);  
(MP) - Morning Prayer; (FS) - Family Service;  
There is Holy Communion Service every Sunday at 8am**

### CHRIST CHURCH IS 150 IN 2012

#### Highlights

- **Celebration with Bishop of Edmonton and unveiling of commemorative tile to mark 150 years of church's consecration (June 26, 7:30pm)**
- **Thanksgiving Service with Bishop of London and launching of 150 years history of Christ Church (September 16, 10.30am)**

## NEWS AROUND THE WORLD

Anglicans around the world were saddened to hear of the death of His Holiness Pope Shenouda III, head of the Coptic Orthodox Church. Pope Shenouda was a man of great holiness whose life was spent in the service of his people, even to the point of house arrest. While giving personal attention to all of the congregations of his church throughout the world, he also made time for weekly teaching from the Bible for the faithful in Cairo.

He was deeply committed to ecumenical movement and worked for the reconciliation of long-standing theological divisions. The Anglican Communion sends condolences to Copts everywhere, and we hold the people of Egypt in our prayers at this time.  
Secretary General of the Anglican Communion Canon Kenneth Kearon

### TOUGH QUESTIONS FOR NEW CONVERTS

Asian Access (or A2), a Christian missions agency in South Asia, listed a series of questions that church planters must ask new believers who are considering baptism. (Due to safety concerns, Asian Access does not mention the country's name.) The country is predominantly Hindu, but over the past few decades Christianity has grown in popularity—especially among poor and tribal peoples. These are the seven questions asked to help determine a new convert's readiness to follow Christ:

Are you willing to leave home and lose the blessing of your father?

Are you willing to lose your job?

Are you willing to go to the village and those who persecute you, forgive them, and share the love of Christ with them?

Are you willing to give an offering to the Lord?

Are you willing to be beaten rather than deny your faith?

Are you willing to go to prison?

Are you willing to die for Jesus?

If the new convert answers yes to all of these questions, then A2 leaders invite that person to sign on the bottom of the paper that of their own free will they have decided to follow Jesus. But here's the risk: if a new convert signs the paper and is caught by the government, he or she will spend three years behind bars. The one who did the evangelizing faces six years in prison.

Leadershipjournal.net

## Who will roll the stone away? (From page 7)

They looked in the tomb and saw a young man where the dead Jesus had been and he shared a startling message with them: 'He has been raised. He is not here. ... He is going ahead of you to Galilee. There you will see him.' He is going ahead of you to Galilee. There you will see him.

This is the key to our Easter morning promise. The women did not hear that Jesus was raised to sit at the right hand of God on some throne in some far away heaven. What they heard was much more radical. He is going ahead of you to Galilee. There you will see him.

Where is Galilee? Galilee is where these disciples came from. It was their home. It was the place where they had families and jobs and ordinary routines. It was not Jerusalem — the Holy City, the centre of power — but Galilee, the place of everyday life.

Go back to your ordinary, every day lives. Go back to where your jobs and your families are. That's where Jesus will meet you. That's where you'll find him and be empowered by him. Go back and continue this

story. This is not the end; God's business is not finished. This is the beginning. This is where your work begins. This is where your life begins.

This is the message of Easter to us. Don't stand at a tomb, paying homage to a dead teacher. Don't set your sights on simply putting ointment on wounds of a dead person. Go back to the place where you live your life and meet the Living Saviour there. Go to meet the God who chooses to walk among us with a power greater than all the powers that can ravage us and ruin us and lead us to despair. Go to meet the Christ who cannot be stopped by the world's intolerance or fear or violence or greed. Go to Galilee, go home, to the place where God has planted you and find Christ there, continuing to rise above the wrecks of human injustice, day after day. Christ is alive and friends, that means that we can also live. We don't need to just exist in a dog-eat-dog world; we don't need to just get by.

**We can enter the reality of the empty tomb. A reality that overturns the fears of this world; a truth which overrides everything, everything that goes against the love of God.**

## Who will roll the stone away? (From page 10)

We can live; because when we have the courage to go to Galilee and meet the Living Lord, then we are given the power to live a life that will not be stopped by meaninglessness or loneliness or hatred or injustice or disease or poverty or anything else in all creation.

We can enter the reality of the empty tomb. A reality that overturns the fears of this world; a truth which overrides everything, everything that goes against the love of God.

The Easter promise is that God's business was not finished in a tomb long ago. The Easter promise is that the same Jesus who could not be held back by torture, by death, by stones rolled in front of tombs, is the Jesus who is alive today and here today and available today to live in you, to rescue you and heal you and empower you and set you free from any tomb you've ever known.

Who will roll away the stone for us? God has already done it. Christ is alive in our world and waiting to meet us. Alleluia!

Dele Agbelusi

### **Easter Means Eternal Life**

A perfect God demands a perfect justice;  
He cannot let us get away with sin.  
We used God's gift of our free will to trespass,  
So heaven's gates were closed; we couldn't get in.  
Our sin required our blood, a sacrifice,  
To atone for all the wrongs that we had done.  
"But I love them!" cried our Father, filled with sorrow;  
"I'll send my only Son to be the one."  
Good Friday marks the slaying of our Jesus,  
The unblemished lamb, the perfect sacrifice.  
He took our guilt and blame upon Himself,  
So we could be with Him in paradise.  
On Easter morning, he came back from death;  
He vanished from the tomb, the empty grave.  
His resurrection means eternal life  
For us, the ones he came to earth to save.  
This summarizes all the Easter story  
And because of it, we'll be with Him in glory.

## CONVERSATION WITH GOD

**Me:** God, can I ask You a question?

**God:** Sure

**Me:** Promise You won't get mad... ...

**God:** I promise

**Me:** Why did You let so much stuff happen to me today?

**God:** What do you mean?

**Me:** Well, I woke up late

**God:** Yes

**Me:** My car took forever to start

**God:** Okay

**Me:** On the way home, my phone went DEAD, just as I picked up a call

**God:** All right

**Me:** And on top of it all, when I got home ~I just wanted to soak my feet in my new foot massager & relax. BUT it wouldn't work!!! Nothing went right today! Why did You do that?

**God:** Let me see, the death angel was at your bed this morning & I had to send one of My Angels to battle him for your life. I let you sleep through that

**Me** (humbled): OH

**God:** I didn't let your car start because there was a drunk driver on your route that would have hit you if you were on the road.

**Me:** (ashamed)

**God:** Your phone went dead because the person that was calling was going to give false witness about what you said on that call, I didn't even let you talk to them so you would be covered.

**Me** (softly): I see God

**God:** Oh and that foot massager, it had a short circuit that was going to electrocute you, so I stopped it from coming on.

**Me:** I'm sorry God

**God:** Don't be sorry, just learn to trust Me.... in all things , the good & the bad.

**Me:** I will trust You.

**God:** And don't doubt that My plan for your day is always better than yours.

sent by Dr. Gbemi Agbelusi



## THE LORD IS RISEN INDEED!

How strange that the news of Jesus' resurrection should be a surprise. He had told his disciples repeatedly that He would rise after three days (Mt. 26:61; Mk. 8:31; Jn. 2:19). Yet when Jesus was crucified, His disciples were filled with gloom and despair, though they should have been joyously and expectantly waiting for Him to rise.

Resurrection day is a day of joy and victory! But on that first resurrection day there was gloom and sadness before the disciples realised Jesus was alive. Mark's Gospel tells us that they "mourned and wept" (Mk. 16:10), but they should have been rejoicing.

It is the resurrection that gives meaning to the cross. The death of Christ alone is bad news, but followed by His rising from the dead it is good news. Why? Jesus took our sins to Calvary. Had He atoned for all but one, He would still be in the tomb. His resurrection is the assurance that the work is finished. God was satisfied, and He demonstrated it by raising Jesus from the grave (Acts 13:32-33).

Christ's resurrection and ours go together; so reasoned the apostle Paul in 1 Corinthians 15. If Christ didn't rise from the grave, what's left? Empty preaching (v.14), false witnesses (v.15), a futile faith (v.17), no life after death (v.18), and hopelessness (v.19) However, Christ did rise from the grave. There are credible witnesses who saw the risen Lord including Paul. The Lord is risen.

Hallelujah! The Lord is risen indeed!

### Memory Verse

Very early on the first day of the week, just after sunrise, they were on their way to the tomb and they asked each other, Who will roll the stone away from the entrance of the tomb?  
Mark 16:2-3



# LAUGHTER LINES

## THE CHOCOLATE CHIP COOKIES

An elderly man lay dying in his bed, Suddenly death's agony was pushed aside as he smelled the aroma of his favourite homemade chocolate chip cookies wafting up the stairs.



Gathering his remaining strength, he lifted himself up from the bed. Leaning against the wall, he slowly made his way out of the bedroom, and with intense concentration, supported himself down the stairs, gripping the railing with both hands. In laboured breath, he leaned against the door frame, gazing wide-eyed into the kitchen.

There, spread out on the kitchen table were literally HUNDREDS of his favourite chocolate chip cookies!

Was it heaven? Or, was it one final act of heroic love from his devoted wife, seeing to it that he left this world a happy man?

Mustering one great final effort, he threw himself toward the table, landing on his knees in a rumped posture, one hand on the edge of the table. The aged and withered hand quiveringly made its way to a cookie near the edge of the table; feeling the warm soft dough actually made the pain of his bones subside for a moment. His parched lips parted; the wondrous taste of the cookie was already in his mouth; seemingly bringing him back to life.

What, then, was this sudden stinging that caused his hand to recoil? He looked to see his wife, still holding the spatula she had just used to smack his hand.

"Stay out of those!" she said, "they're for the funeral."

[www.makeitclearnow.org/relhumor.html](http://www.makeitclearnow.org/relhumor.html)

# LAUGHTER LINES

## BEST INTENTIONS

One day, I taught my young class the story of Jesus visiting Mary and Martha. I carefully explained how Martha had hurried to clean the house and cook a special meal. Then I paused and asked, "What would you do if Jesus was going to visit your house today?" One little girl quickly responded, "I'd put the Bible on the table!"

Louise Day, Mount Holly, VA. Today's Christian Woman, "Heart to Heart."

## WIRED FOR SOUND

Back in the days before many churches had wireless microphones, a preacher was wired for sound with a lapel mic, and as he preached, he moved briskly about the platform, jerking the mic cord as he went. Then he moved to one side, getting wound up in the cord and nearly tripping before jerking it again. After several circles and jerks, a little girl in the third pew leaned toward her mother and whispered, "If he gets loose, will he hurt us?"

[www.makeitclearnow.org/relhumor.html](http://www.makeitclearnow.org/relhumor.html)

## GREAT SERMON

A woman approached the minister after the sermon, and thanked him for his discourse. "I found it so helpful," she said.

The minister replied: "I hope it will not prove as helpful as the last sermon you heard me preach."

"Why, what do you mean?" asked the astonished woman.

"Well," said the minister, "that sermon lasted you three months."

[www.makeitclearnow.org/relhumor.html](http://www.makeitclearnow.org/relhumor.html)

## THE CROSS

As I look up at the cross I see,  
The Guiltless Lamb who died for me.  
I see the thorns that add to the pain,  
In the form of a crown, this borne for my gain.  
It's hard to look upon those stripes  
so bloody & wide, deep & thin,  
Not that they were undeserved,  
but just payment for MY sin.  
So how is it that Jesus is up there,  
while I remain unscathed?  
Because of what He Himself has said...  
"There is NO OTHER WAY"!  
The sky grew dark, the thunder rolled,  
the very earth shook; rock and stone,  
The penalty paid; "It is Finished" crossed His lips,  
and the furious wrath of God was shown.  
Indeed the innermost veil of the temple  
was torn by God above,  
Not only was God's wrath poured out  
but Grace, such undeserving Love.  
For by supplying His very own Son  
Jesus came as both sacrifice and priest,  
that we might be reconciled to God,  
and partake in the Passover Feast.  
Don't you see what's been done here?  
What a great price has been paid!  
When the sins of the world,  
were upon Jesus Christ laid.  
And He willingly bore them,  
out of His perfecting love,  
that we might be with Him  
forever, in eternity above.

## SUNDAY BWANHOT AT LARGE - HUMANISM

Humanism is our latest rediscovery and closely guarded achievement. This old religion was invented by Adam and Eve right in the Garden of Eden. They reasoned that they had the right to decide what is true and not someone else dictating to them. And so they ignored God's dictated truth and embraced Satan's new 'truth'. This religion is sweeping over the world like a flood without restraint.

We know that Adam and Eve quickly discovered that their New Religion was wrong. They suffered shame, distrusted each other, their first born son murdered his only brother.

This new religion progressed into selfishness, recklessness, godlessness, etc. until God wiped out all who were alive then sparing only Noah & his family who still believed in absolute truths. Did we learn our lesson? No! That humanistic religion did not perish in the flood. It quickly resurfaced and has now gripped the whole world from edge to edge.

The prophets and priests of this Humanistic Religion are the powerful, educated, and rich people of the earth. They use the media to convert people and enact laws in every country to force everyone to toe their line. Those who comply are rewarded while those who refuse to comply are punished. Read Romans 1:18-32. Here is verse 32: **"Although they know God's righteous decree that those who do such things deserve death, they not only continue to do these very things but also approve of those who practise them."**

## AN IDIOT'S GUIDE TO EASTER

On Easter Sunday little Johnny listened as his Sunday school teacher told the class that the lesson would be about the meaning of Easter. "Can anyone tell the Easter story?" she asked. When no one volunteered to speak, she called on Frank.

"Umm, I don't think I know," Frank said. The teacher reassured him that was okay and moved on to Betty.

"I don't know how to tell it," she responded.

Finally, little Johnny decided to raise his hand. He said he would tell the Easter story. The teacher was pleasantly surprised at his willingness, since he was usually the class clown.

"On Easter," said Johnny, "Jesus and his disciples were eating the Jewish Passover at the last supper, but later Jesus was deceived and turned over to the Romans by one of his disciples. He was accused of teaching he was the Messiah and when he confessed it, the Romans made him to wear a crown of thorns, took him to be crucified, and was hung on a cross with nails through his hands and feet. He said 'It is finished' which means 'Debt paid in full' and died. He was definitely dead because the water was separated from his blood when they stabbed his side. So they buried him in a nearby cave on Friday which was sealed off by a large boulder."

"Very good, Johnny!" the teacher gasped excitedly. "And what else happened that we celebrate on Easter?"

Johnny thought for a moment before continuing. "Now, on Easter Sunday each year, we move the boulder aside so that Jesus can come out. And if he sees his shadow, then we know there will be six more weeks of winter!"

How would you tell the Easter Story? According to Scripture, the resurrection of Christ is the centerpiece of our faith. There are many people who believe in Jesus—who believe that he died on the cross for our sins—but who have a hard time believing in the resurrection. Paul clearly teaches that without a risen Christ, we have no gospel at all. Unless you believe in the risen Christ, our religion is pointless. But because he was raised from the dead, we will also be raised to eternal life. Now that's good news! (1 Corinthians 15:13-14)

Youth specialties Inc.

# HEAVENLY CORRESPONDENCE

**E-MAIL FROM GOD (37)**

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From: **GOD, YOUR HEAVENLY FATHER**

To: **You, My beloved child**

He used his servant body to carry our sins to the Cross so we could be rid of sin.  
(1 Peter 2:24 (The Message))

Subject: **RECEIVE THE GIFT OF THE CROSS**

My child,

Even the most perfect person has done something that deserves a death sentence. There are times when you've been cruel, or greedy, or conceited, or jealous. Just like one drop of poison pollutes a glass of water, one small lie pollutes your life and separates you from Me. Even the smallest, white lie earns the death penalty.

But I loved you so much that I gave all the bad stuff you've done, big and little, to Jesus on the cross. He held it there for you because I asked Him to do it. The power of your wrongdoing died when He was crucified. So when you believe in Jesus, all that bad stuff you've done is forgiven and washed away. It's My gift to you for the cost of My Son's life. Your debt is cancelled forever.

Love,

God

Adapted from 'e-mail from God for Teens'-Clonigers

## MOTTO/TEXT FOR THE YEAR

“...the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know him better.” *EPHESIANS 1:17*

### FINDING OUT ABOUT ...CHRIST CHURCH?

Tel/Fax: 020 8340 1566

We are a family of men and women, boys and girls who are resolved to live for God in a world that has largely chosen to ignore Him.

We believe that it is God's world and that He has given the answer to all human problems in Jesus Christ. As a body of believers, we offer to all who come, regular opportunities for worship and service that point the way to God as our strongest resource in all aspects of life.

We will be pleased to welcome you to any of our activities. You will find a warm welcome at Christ Church.

#### Times of worship and fellowship are shown below:

- Sunday**
- **8.00 am.** Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer)
  - **10.30 am.** Main service with Crèche facilities
- There is family/parade service once every month - usually the third Sunday of the month unless otherwise indicated.
- **6.00 pm.** Evening worship

#### WEEKLY ACTIVITIES AT A GLANCE

- Sunday** - Choir practice in church (9.30 am)
- Monday** - Baby n' Toddler Group (9.30 am to 11.30 am) - On recess  
- Brownies meeting in church (5.30 pm)  
- Prayer meetings in church - , 2nd and 16th April. (8 pm)
- Wednesday** - Fellowship Meal in church (6:30 pm) followed by,  
Bible fellowship (7.30 pm)- resumes on 18th April.
- Thursday** - Homework Club (5 pm-7 pm )
- Friday** - Bible Fellowship in church - West Chapel (2.00 pm) - On recess  
- Scouts meeting in church and hall (6.30 pm)  
- Music Team practice in choir vestry (6.00 pm)
- Saturday** - Cell group prayer meeting in church (7-8 pm)
- Enquiry/Counselling/Prayer Lifeline** - please phone 020 8340 1566
- Editorial Board:** Sheila Wheeler, Iyabo Agbelusi, Dele Agbelusi
- Vicar:** Revd Canon Dele Agbelusi
- Church Wardens:** Peter Green, Mervin Bentham, Charles Murphy
- Lay Ministers:** Richard Mercer, Iyabo Agbelusi
- Assistant Organist:** Jan Hazucha

**YOUR COMMENTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS ARE WELCOME**

**PLEASE WRITE TO THE EDITOR AT:**

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