

Thought for the week

Easter Sunday — 1st April 2018

Alleluia, Christ is risen: He is risen indeed, Alleluia

What an emotional roller-coaster this last week has been. We started as members of the cheering crowds at the triumphal (albeit on a donkey) entry into Jerusalem; wondered at the Master turned slave, who washed our feet on Holy Thursday; wept at the foot of the cross on Good Friday; saw hope as new light shone on Holy Saturday and, today, rejoice at the rising of our Lord, heralding our salvation.

This has been a communal journey, witnessing these events together, but I hope it has also been a personal one. Christ died, and rose again, for me – and for you. Not collectively, but individually. Take a minute to let that sink in: Christ died for YOU – personally - not for some nameless member of His future church, but YOU!

The enormity of this act of perfect love hits me frequently; especially at these key moments of our worship together. Christ gave up his Godhead, became man, then suffered humiliation and an agonising death that I – I – might have eternal life. Read that last sentence again! Each and every one of us is personally known to, and loved by God, to the extent that He died for us.

When I think of what Christ has done for me, I long to do something for him, but it can be so hard to do so on a daily basis. We know we can't earn His love. We know we can't repay His gift so dearly given. However, we can acknowledge that gift, in the way we live our lives. We can share that love with all those around us.

We have come through Lent, our period of reflection and self-denial and, rightly, move into the joy of our Risen Lord. Please don't leave Lent completely behind you. I know I don't want to. I want to continue to reflect on my actions and my words; I want to continue to be a better person – to move each day towards the vision of me that God has – the vision of me that led him to the Cross. Will you join me?

May the joy of Easter fill your hearts and minds; and may we all work to spread Easter joy wherever we go, and in whatever we do.

A Parishioner