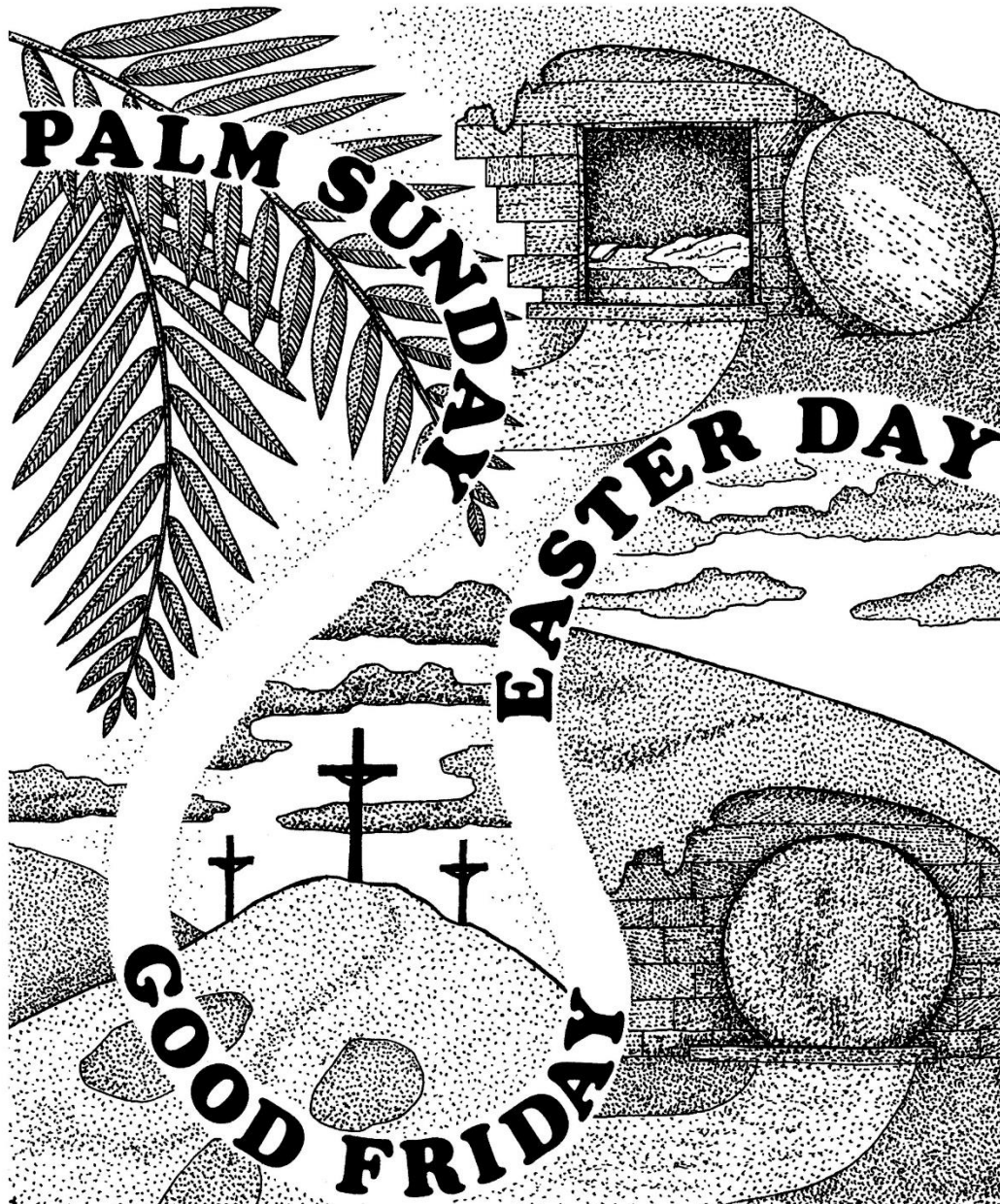


# Parish Magazine

March 2024

30p



## St. John's Parish Church

Rufford Road, Crossens  
(A member of the North Meols Team Ministry)

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## Church Contacts:

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Treasurer: Mrs Louise James

PCC Secretary: Mrs Chrissy Gregory

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Brownies: Mrs Lynn Harrison Tel: 07595 423734

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Mumford Room Bookings:  
Mr Andrew Boden Tel: 228189

### Service times:

#### Sunday (10am)

Holy Communion 3<sup>rd</sup> March, 10<sup>th</sup> March, 24<sup>th</sup> March, 31<sup>st</sup> March

Morning Prayer 17<sup>th</sup> March

#### Wednesday (10am)

Holy Communion 6<sup>th</sup> March, 20<sup>th</sup> March

Morning Prayer 13<sup>th</sup> March, 27<sup>th</sup> March

*A Letter from the Revd Bill Watson*

Dear Friends across the North Meols Team,

I want to begin by taking you on an imaginary journey through time. Rather like Dr Who's Tardis, our Time Machine takes us to Ancient Rome towards the end of the sixth century. It is the Third Sunday in Lent, and we are present at a Holy Communion Service. We have to imagine that we all know enough Latin to be able to follow the Service. All is going well when suddenly, to our surprise and delight, we hear the Collect of the Day. It is exactly the same Prayer as is set down in the Book of Common Prayer for the Third Sunday In Lent.

"We beseech thee Almighty God, look upon the hearty desires of thy humble servants ... etc." You can look it up for yourself when we get back to the 21st. century.



These are the exact words that you will hear on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> March at our mid-week Holy Communion at St.Cuthbert's Churchtown, fifteen hundred years later. It comes to us from the Sacramentary of St. Gregory the Great, Bishop of Rome (590 - 604). The headlines at that time were all tales of murder, rape, ruined homes, starving refugees, fear and hopelessness. (What's new?).

It is important to take a note of history. We are all part - a very small part - of the history of the world. We should all use history to learn lessons from the past, which should determine our future.

The Christian Faith itself is founded upon a historical fact, the birth of Jesus Christ, the Son of God, the Prince of Peace.

The message of Jesus is so obviously the right way forward. You would imagine that, since our time on earth is so brief compared to the history of the world, that the human race would wish to enjoy it in peace and happiness. Yet, in spite of all our modern learning and technology, we are virtually no further forward since humanity is still awash with hatred, terrorism and war mongering.

On our way back to the 21st. century, we stop off for a call in the 17<sup>th</sup> century. It is now the Fourth Sunday in Lent, and we hear the 1662 revision of the Book of Common Prayer. This time the Collect is not so easy as the one we heard last week, translated into English by Thomas Cranmer, Archbishop of Canterbury, it has been altered and added to, but there is a significant phrase to which I draw your attention. In it we pray that by the grace of God, "we may be mercifully relieved". The Latin word translated 'relieved' is 'respiramus', which means that "we may breathe again" or, as someone has suggested, that "we may get our second wind".

This is an appropriate sentiment on Mid-lent Sunday, which, before the popularity of Mothering Sunday was always known as Refreshment Sunday. Now, safely back in the 21st century, you may be feeling weary of your Lenten devotions or Self Denial. Take a deep breath, get your second wind, and carry on. The last week in March is Holy Week with Good Friday on 29<sup>th</sup> March and Easter Day on 31<sup>st</sup> March. Please look at the diary of events across our Team Ministry and make an effort to attend some of them.

At Christmas we remembered the song of the angels at the birth of Jesus Christ and we sang, "O hush the noise, ye men of strife, and hear the angels sing".

At Easter we will pray again the song of the angels, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace".

We must pray fervently that the men of strife may hush their noise once and for all so that the Kingdom of God may come on earth, as it is in heaven,

I wish you all a very Happy and Peaceful Easter.

BILL WATSON.



Time to see what our three Churches are up to in the weeks leading up to Christmas  
by signing in to our Team's YouTube Channel  
"NORTH MEOLS TEAM MINISTRY SOUTHPORT"

The full team service where we welcomed the new Bishop of Liverpool is currently available on the team's YouTube channel.

### **Sanctuary Flowers**

No flowers in Lent.

Thank you to all who support our Flower Fund. ECB.



# ROTAS

## SUNDAY COFFEE ROTA

3 <sup>rd</sup> March	Nicola & Andrew
10 <sup>th</sup> March	Brenda & Mavis
17 <sup>th</sup> March	Chris D & Bill
24 <sup>th</sup> March	Chris J & Bill
31 <sup>st</sup> March	Kath & Jane
7 <sup>th</sup> April	Nicola & Andrew



Help is urgently needed to maintain a weekly rota. If you are willing to volunteer, please see me. Chris Jowett

## WEDNESDAY COFFEE ROTA

28 <sup>th</sup> February	Eileen & Trish
6 <sup>th</sup> March	Jean & Mavis
13 <sup>th</sup> March	Brenda & June
20 <sup>th</sup> March	Chris & Janet
27 <sup>th</sup> March	Eileen & Trish
3 <sup>rd</sup> April	Jean & Mavis

## Readings rota

March 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Simon	3rd Sunday of Lent	1 Corinthians 1.18-25
March 10 <sup>th</sup>	Andrew	4th Sunday of Lent	Ephesians 2.1-10
March 17 <sup>th</sup>	Joey	5th Sunday of Lent	Hebrews 5.5-10
March 24 <sup>th</sup>	Eileen	Palm Sunday	Philippians 2.5-11
March 31 <sup>st</sup>	Maggie	Easter Sunday	Acts 10.34-43

# Lent Services

*The  
Season  
of  
Lent*



## Ash Wednesday 14th February

7.30pm Team Service St Cuthbert Church Churchtown

Imposition of Ashes and Holy Communion

## Tuesdays Evenings in Lent

7.30pm Book of Common Prayer Evening Prayer

Held at these churches:

20<sup>th</sup> February                      St Stephen in the Banks

27<sup>th</sup> February                      St John Crossens

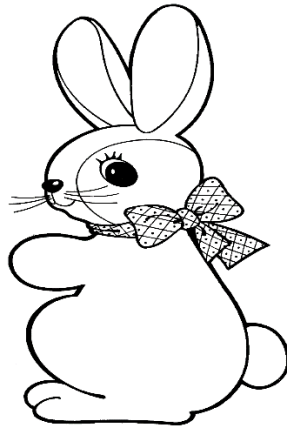
5<sup>th</sup> March                          St Cuthbert Churchtown

12<sup>th</sup> March                        St Stephen in the Banks

19<sup>th</sup> March                        St John Crossens

**Come and join us for the season of Lent leading us into Holy Week and then the glories of Easter.**

# **EASTER COFFEE MORNING**

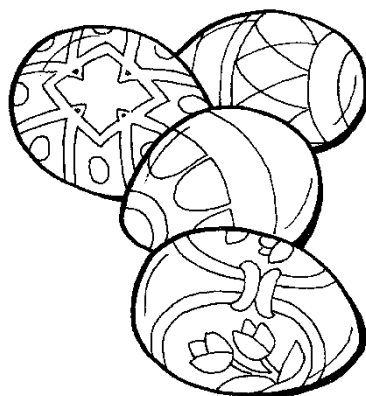


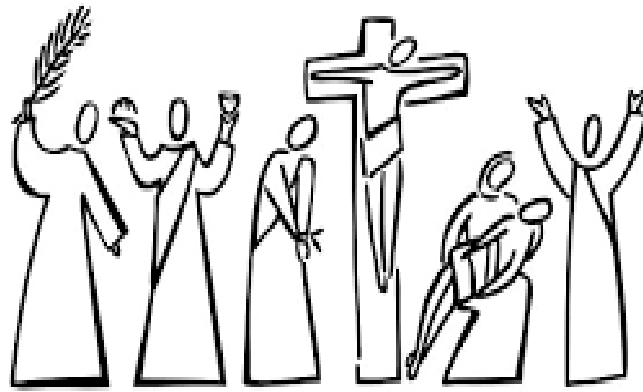
**SATURDAY 30th MARCH**

**10AM - 12 NOON**

**COME FOR A COFFEE AND START TO  
CELEBRATE EASTER!**

**THERE WILL BE CAKES, GOODIES  
AND A RAFFLE!!!!**





# Holy Week

**COME AND JOIN US THIS HOLY WEEK AND EASTER  
FOR SERVICES ACROSS OUR CHURCHES  
IN THE NORTH MEOLS TEAM**

## **MARCH 24<sup>th</sup> PALM SUNDAY**

ST CUTHBERT CHURCHTOWN

10.30am MORNING PRAYER /BLESSING OF THE PALM CROSSES

ST JOHN CROSSENS

10.00am HOLY COMMUNION /BLESSING OF THE PALM CROSSES

St STEPHEN IN THE BANKS

10.30am MORNING PRAYER/BLESSING OF THE PALM CROSSES.

## **MARCH 25<sup>th</sup> HOLY MONDAY**

7.30pm ST JOHN CROSSENS

THE STATIONS OF THE CROSS

## **MARCH 26<sup>th</sup> HOLY TUESDAY**

7.30pm ST CUTHBERT CHURCHTOWN

REFLECTION FOR HOLY WEEK

**MARCH 27<sup>TH</sup> - HOLY WEDNESDAY**

7.30pm ST STEPEHEN IN THE BANKS

SERVICE LED BY CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOURS

**MARCH 28<sup>TH</sup> - MAUNDAY THURSDAY**

7.30pm ST CUTHBERT CHURCHTOWN SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

**MARCH 29<sup>TH</sup> - GOOD FRIDAY**

10.00am THE VILLAGE CHURCH WALK OF WITNESS TO

ST CUTHBERT CHURCHTOWN FOLL BY 10.30am SERVICE FOR GOOD FRIDAY

2pm – 3pm THE LAST HOUR PRAYERS AND MUSIC

ST JOHN CROSSENS

10.00am REFLECTIVE SERVICE FOR GOOD FRIDAY

2pm-3pm THE LAST HOUR PRAYERS AND MUSIC

ST STEPHEN IN THE BANKS

10.30am SERVICE FOR GOOD FRIDAY

2pm-3pm PRAYERS AND MUSIC

**MARCH 30<sup>TH</sup> - HOLY SATURDAY**

St JOHN CROSSENS

6.30pm EASTER CONCERT AND LIGHTING OF THE EASTER CANDLE

**MARCH 31<sup>ST</sup> - EASTER SUNDAY**

10.30am St CUTHBERT CHUCHTOWN HOLY COMMUNION

10.00am ST JOHN CROSSENS HOLY COMMUNION

8.30am ST STEPHEN IN THE BANKS

BOOK OF COMMON PRAYER HOLY COMMUNION

10.30 ALL AGE WORSHIP FOR EASTER MORNIN



# **Banks Brass Band**

## **Spring concert**

### **Friday 26<sup>th</sup> April**

### **7.30 @ St. John's church.**

**£5 per person.**

**Refreshments included.**

**Please ask Chrissy or Jane  
for a ticket.**

# PUZZLES - SUDOKU

			5	6	7	1		4
				9	1	2		
1			4			5	8	6
	3				6			9
4	5						6	1
6			9				5	
8	2	3			9			5
		4	6	3				
9		5	2	8	4			

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				9		5		4
	1	2		8		6		
								9
8		6			2		4	
	4		3			7		8
5								
		8		7		3	2	
6		3		5				

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*Easy*

*Medium*

## "SCHOOL - RESCUE ME!"

As part of their work to support charities, school are supporting an animal rescue centre called "Rescue Me". The children have been asked to collect postage stamps from envelopes, unwanted foreign currency and any pre-decimal or pre-euro currency people may have hidden in old socks!!!

If you have any such items, please can you pass them to Karen Corbett and she will take them into school.

# **Churches Together**

*(in North Meols)*

***Tuesday, 12<sup>th</sup> March 2024***

***7.30 p.m.***

***at Cornerstone Methodist Church***

**Everyone is very  
welcome!**

***The meeting will be led by:***

***Cornerstone Methodist Church***

***"Be completely united, with only one thought and one purpose."  
[1 Corinthians 1: 106]***

# WORDSEARCH

## Love and serve one another

On Maundy Thursday we recall the final command that Jesus gave to His disciples before His death. After the Last Supper, He rose and washed His disciples' feet. This was astonishing for a 'teacher' to do, but He had a firm purpose in mind: "A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another." His disciples were to love through service, not domination, of one another.

In Latin, the opening phrase of this sentence is 'mandatum novum do vobis'. The word 'mundy' is thus a corruption of the Latin 'mandatum' (or command). The 'washing of the feet' ceremony was an important part of the medieval church's liturgy, symbolising the humility of the clergy, in obedience to the example of Christ.

Maundy  
Thursday  
Final  
Command  
Jesus  
  
Disciples  
Death  
Last  
Supper  
Washed  
  
Feet  
Astonishing  
Purpose  
Teacher  
As  
  
Loved  
you  
Must  
One  
Another  
  
Service  
Domination  
Latin  
Ceremony  
Medieval  
Humility  
Obedience



# Bible Bite

A short story from the Bible

It can be read in the Bible in  
Mt 21:12-16, Mk 11:15-18, Lk 19:45-48

When Jesus reached Jerusalem he went to the Temple, built as a place where everyone could worship God, but with restrictions...

Plan of the Temple

200m

Restrictions

- only priests
- only Jewish men
- only Jews
- everyone

Visitors had to change their money to shekels

They had to buy special animals to sacrifice...

and the stalls filled the only place that non-Jews could come to worship God

stalls

yet more stalls

even more stalls

The chief priests had no problem with this...

but it made Jesus very angry...

so he drove them out

This should be a place of prayer but you have made it into a den of thieves \*

\* Isaiah 56:7, Jeremiah 7:11


Hosanna!

He is upsetting everything.


We must have him killed

But the crowds love him - we must do it secretly.


# The tale of the Tower Builder




JESUS OFTEN TOLD STORIES WITH HIDDEN MEANINGS



ON ONE OCCASION JESUS EXPLAINED HOW IT WOULDN'T ALWAYS BE EASY TO FOLLOW HIM.



JESUS BEGAN, 'IF ONE OF YOU PLANS TO BUILD A TOWER...



...YOU'LL FIRST NEED TO WORK HOW MUCH IT WILL COST.




IF YOU DON'T DO THE SUMS...



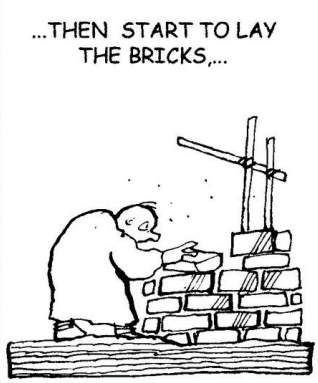
...YOU MIGHT MAKE A START, ....



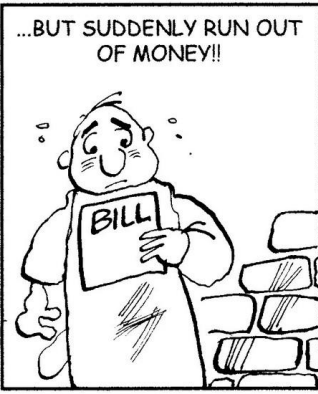
....WORK VERY HARD ON THE FOUNDATIONS. ....



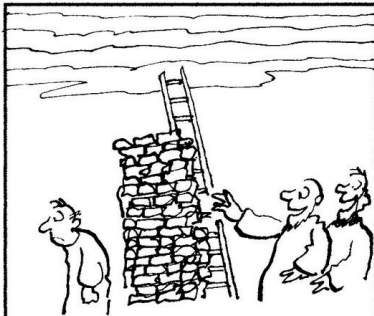
...THEN START TO LAY THE BRICKS,...



...BUT SUDDENLY RUN OUT OF MONEY!!




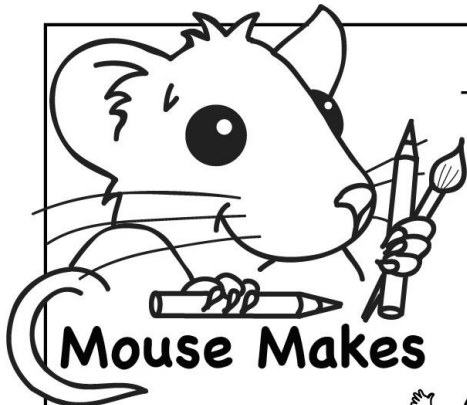
THEN PEOPLE WILL LAUGH AT YOU!



TOWER TO BE CANCELLED BUILT HERE

WE NEED TO REALISE THAT ALTHOUGH FOLLOWING JESUS IS THE RIGHT THING TO DO.; IT'S ALSO A GREAT CHALLENGE.





"I am the **resurrection** and the **life**.  
The one who believes in me will live  
even though they die."

John 1:25



READ the Bible  
passages to find  
the answers to the  
crossword clues

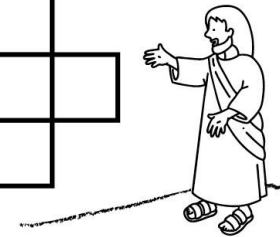
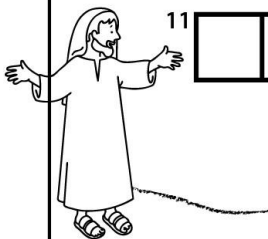
Matthew 21:1-11

1. Which city did Jesus ride into?
2. What did he ride on?
3. What did the crowd shout?
4. What did clothes did they put down?
7. What did they cut down to spread on the road?



Matthew 26:17-29

15. What feast did Jesus celebrate?
12. Who did he celebrate it with?
11. What did Jesus break to eat?



Matthew 27:27-61

17. What was Jesus' crown made of?
9. What was Jesus crucified on?
14. Who's tomb was Jesus buried in?
13. What did they wrap Jesus' body in?
16. What did they roll in front of the tomb?

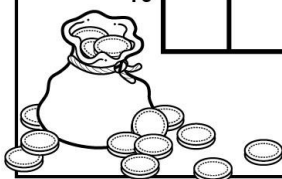
Matthew 26:36-75

6. What did Jesus go to do at Gethsemane?
18. Who denied Jesus?



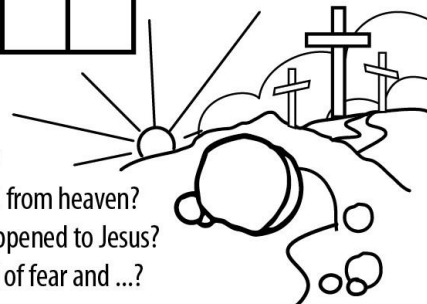
Matthew 26:14-16

- 8d. Who betrayed Jesus?
10. How many silver pieces was he paid?



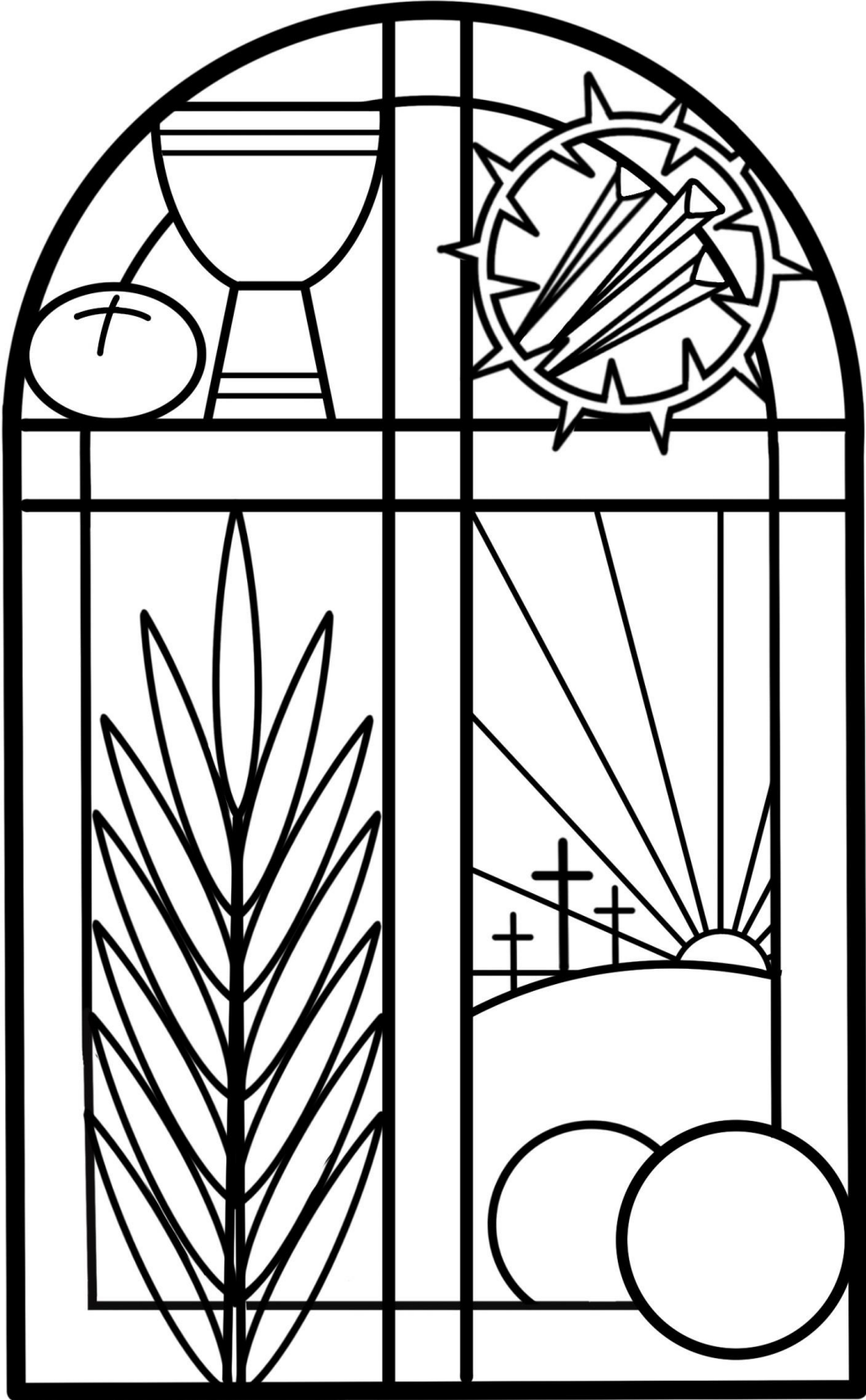
Matthew 28:1-10

5. Who descended from heaven?
19. What had happened to Jesus?
- 8a. Mary was full of fear and ...?



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Some colouring for all ages....



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