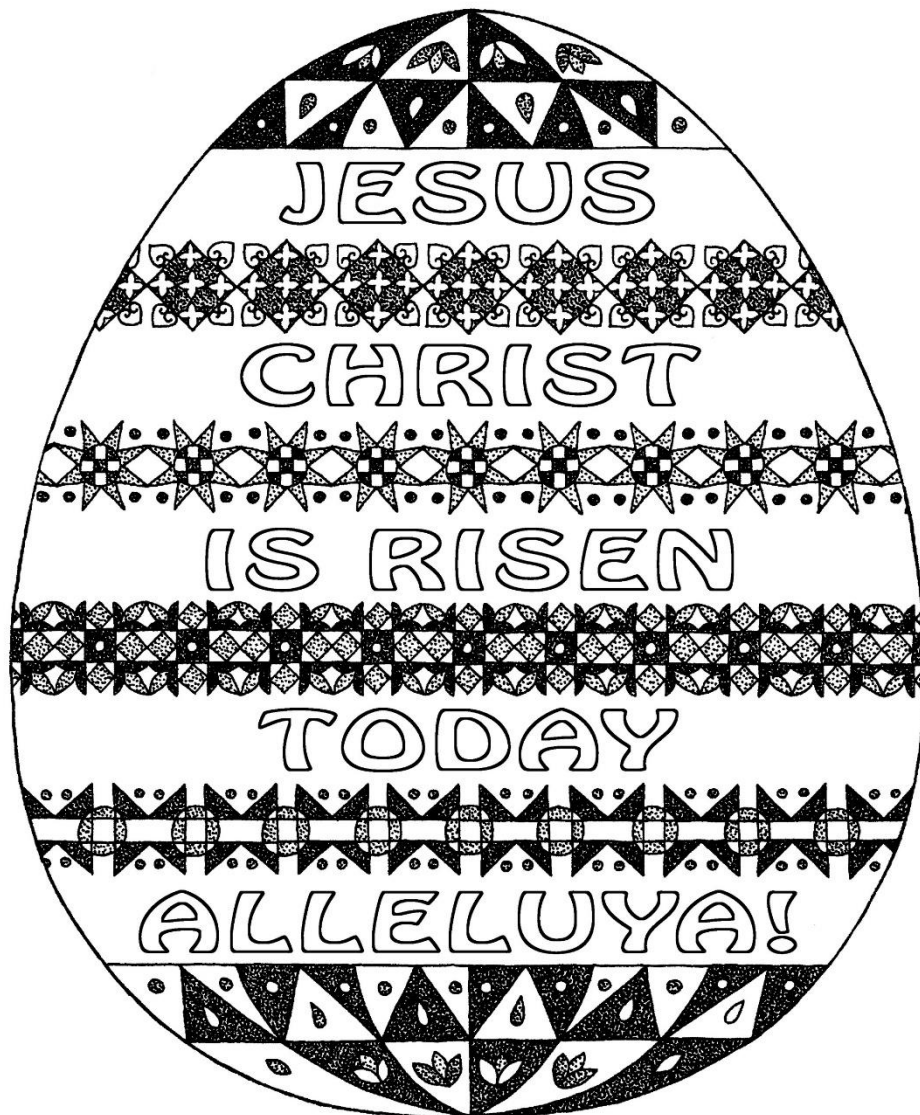


Parish Magazine

April 2025

30p



St. John's Parish Church

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

Magazine Contents:

Letter from Rev Les Thomas	Page 3
Rotas	Page 5
Sudoku	Page 9
Wordsearch	Page 11
Children's section	Page 12

Church Contacts:

Team Rector: Rev'd Rebecca Clarke, revdrebecca@hotmail.co.uk, 01704 233738

Reader: Mrs Karen Corbett, 40 New Lane, Crossens. Tel: 220192

Churchwardens: Mrs Chris Jowett, 25 Brook St, Crossens. Tel: 227507
TBC

Treasurer: Mrs Louise James

PCC Secretary: Mrs Chrissy Gregory

Rainbows: Mrs Nicola Macdonald Tel: 233580

Brownies: TBC

Guides: Mrs Tracy Boden Tel: 228189

Mumford Room Bookings:
Mr Andrew Boden Tel: 228189

Service times:

Sunday (10am)

Holy Communion 6th April, 20th April

Morning Prayer 13th April

*****Team service at St Cuthberts - 27th April*****

Wednesday (10am)

Holy Communion 9th April ***No service on 23rd April***

Morning Prayer 2nd April, 16th April

For later dates, please check the website: www.stjohncrossens.co.uk

Rev Les Thomas reflects on.....

RETIRING FROM RETIREMENT

It was in 2010 that I retired from full time parochial ministry. For the past fifteen years I have exercised a retirement ministry locally here in our three Team Churches, and sometimes further afield. I have enjoyed it enormously and found it very fulfilling. Thank you for allowing me to minister amongst you. As I reach my 80th Birthday, I think it is time now to “retire from retirement”.



During the months of lockdown during Covid, when our churches were closed, I put in place our YouTube Channel and each Sunday our Team’s ministers would contribute to an act of worship which enabled us to share our fellowship together although we were apart. That on-line Ministry continues today with our Team Quarterly Magazine, and this is something I will continue to produce in my “second retirement”.

Names and labels can be important for they remind us of what we are about - or should be - as Christians. Although I will no longer hold the Bishop’s Licence to officiate, my Ordination bestowed on me the title of “Priest” - and this is a lifelong designation. I have never considered myself to be a particularly priestly person - if you know what I mean, but my understanding of what it means to be a priest comes from the Latin derivation of that word - namely “pontifex”.....“bridge builder”.

It is the privilege of the priest (and yes others as well!) to be that link, that bridge between God and the people. Such “bridging” takes various forms, be it in the celebration of Holy Communion, the services of baptisms, weddings and funerals, getting alongside people at their most needy and intimate moments and giving them that assurance of God’s love and presence with them at that time.

Although I will no longer carry on now with these priestly duties, I will always be a minister, and like you, our Christian faith calls all of us to have a ministry of love and care for others. You don’t need to be ordained to be a minister - it is something that should flow naturally from us out of our love for Jesus who came among us as One who serves. I look forward to continue being a minister.

Thank you for allowing me to be a Priest and a Minister amongst you over these past fifteen years.

When leaving previous Parishes, people would often say some appreciative things. There is just one word of appreciation that has stayed with me..... Someone said to me “Thank you for being here, you have made Jesus more real to me”. If I have achieved that in just one person’s life here in our Team Churches, then my retirement ministry has been blessed.

Incidentally, I’m not going anywhere else.

See you around!

St John’s Crossens

Page 3



This Quarter's on line Team Ministry Magazine will be available to view on our Team's Youtube Channel

NORTH MEOLS TEAM MINISTRY SOUTHPORT

The Programme includes the following items:

A New Look at Numbers with Year 6 at St. Stephen's School.....Exercising Patience as a Christian.....

Is it the End of The Pier for Southport?.....Making the Most of Lent and Easter.....

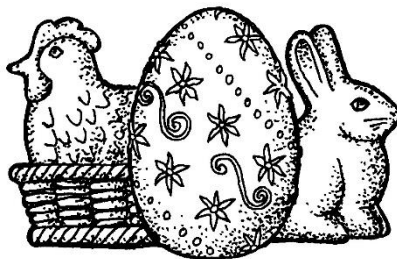
Where did your Easter egg come from?

Your Easter egg can be traced back to the early Church in Mesopotamia.

Since ancient times, people had been giving each other eggs at pagan Spring festivals, as eggs were a symbol of the new life and rebirth in nature all around them. Then came Jesus and His death and resurrection, which made Easter the ultimate time for Christians to celebrate new life and rebirth. After that, it was only a matter of time before eggs found their way into commemorating Easter.

This seems to have first happened with the very early church in Mesopotamia, where those early Christians began dyeing their eggs after Easter, to celebrate the new birth that Jesus had given to them. The practise of using eggs in Easter celebrations then spread to the Orthodox Churches, and from there to the Western Churches across Europe.

This year, why not buy an extra Easter egg or two, and join our church in donating them to our local food bank? You will make some local children very happy! For more details, ask the churchwardens....



ROTAS

SUNDAY COFFEE ROTA

6 th April	Kath & Jane
13 th April	Nicola & Andrew
20 th April	Brenda & Chris
4 th May	Louise J & Heather



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

WEDNESDAY COFFEE ROTA

2 nd April	Jean & Mavis
9 th April	Chris & Janet
16 th April	Eileen & Trish
23 rd April	No midweek service
30 th April	Brenda & June
7 th May	Jean & Mavis

Readings rota

06/04/2025	Louise J	5th of Lent	Philippians 3.4b-14
13/04/2025	Anne and Karen	Palm Sunday	Palm and Passion liturgies
20/04/2025	Andrew	Easter Sunday	Acts 10.34-43
27/04/2025	Joey	2nd of Easter	Revelation 1.4-8
04/05/2025	Joan	3rd of Easter	Acts 9.1-6 (7-20)
11/05/2025	Eileen	4th of Easter	Acts 9.36-end
18/05/2025	Simon	5th of Easter	Acts 11.1-18
25/05/2025	Nicola	6th of Easter	Acts 16.9-15

North Meols Team

Easter Services



Sunday 13 th April	<u>Palm Sunday Services</u>		
	Morning Prayer	10.00	St John's Crossens
	Holy Communion	10.30	St Cuthbert's Churchtown
	Morning Prayer	10.30	St Stephen's Banks
Monday 14 th April	Stations of the Cross	7 pm	St John's Crossens
Tuesday 15 th April	Compline	7 pm	St Cuthbert's Churchtown
Wednesday 16 th April	Christian Endeavours	7.30pm	St Stephen's Banks
Thursday 17 th April	Maundy Holy Communion	7 pm	St Cuthbert's Churchtown
Friday 18 th April	<u>Good Friday Services</u>		
	Service of Reflection	10.00	St John's Crossens
	Last Hour	2-3pm	St John's Crossens
	Service of Reflection	10.30	St Stephen's Banks
	Last Hour	2-3pm	St Stephen's Banks
	Walk of Witness	2-3pm	St Cuthbert's Churchtown

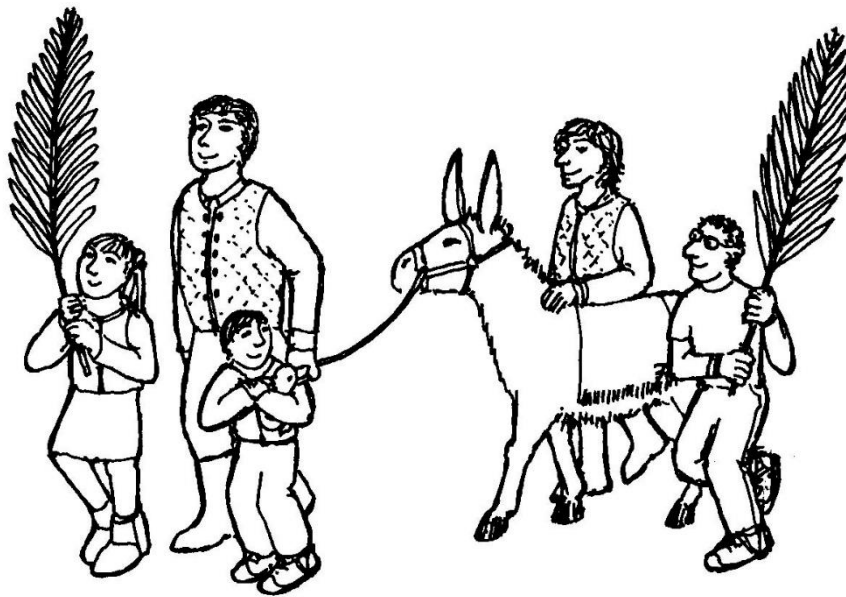
Shining Brass

Once a month, if you would ever have the need to go into our vestry, then you would have found Brenda and Mavis rubbing and cleaning our brass and silver furnishings. They have regularly kept this work going for several years and we thank them most sincerely for it!



They now feel that it is time to stop, and they would be grateful to hand over to someone else.

If you feel that you would like to continue this work, then they would be very grateful. Please contact Chris Jowett if you would like to help in keeping our church well cared for.

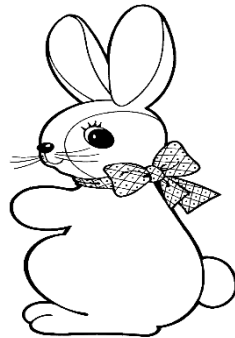


SAVE THE DATE!!

SATURDAY 12TH JULY SUMMER COFFEE MORNING! MAKE SURE THIS IS IN YOUR DIARIES.

DETAILS TO BE GIVEN NEARER THE TIME.

EASTER COFFEE MORNING

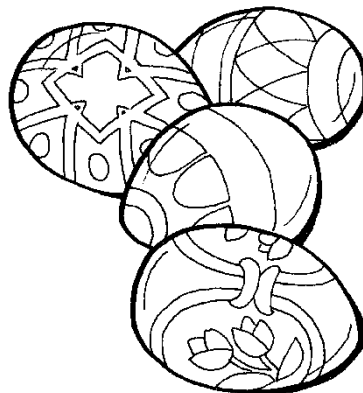


SATURDAY 19th APRIL

10AM - 12 NOON

COME FOR A COFFEE AND START TO
CELEBRATE EASTER!

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



PUZZLES - SUDOKU

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

				5	7		3	
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	8	5						
1				6	2	3		7
		3				5		
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					8			3
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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.

Nexus
Churches
Together

(in North Meols)

Tuesday 8th April
At St Patrick's RC Church
7:30pm

Speaker: Rev Marie-Anne Kent

Everyone is very
welcome!

"A new command I give you. Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another."

[John 13: 34,35]

WORDSEARCH

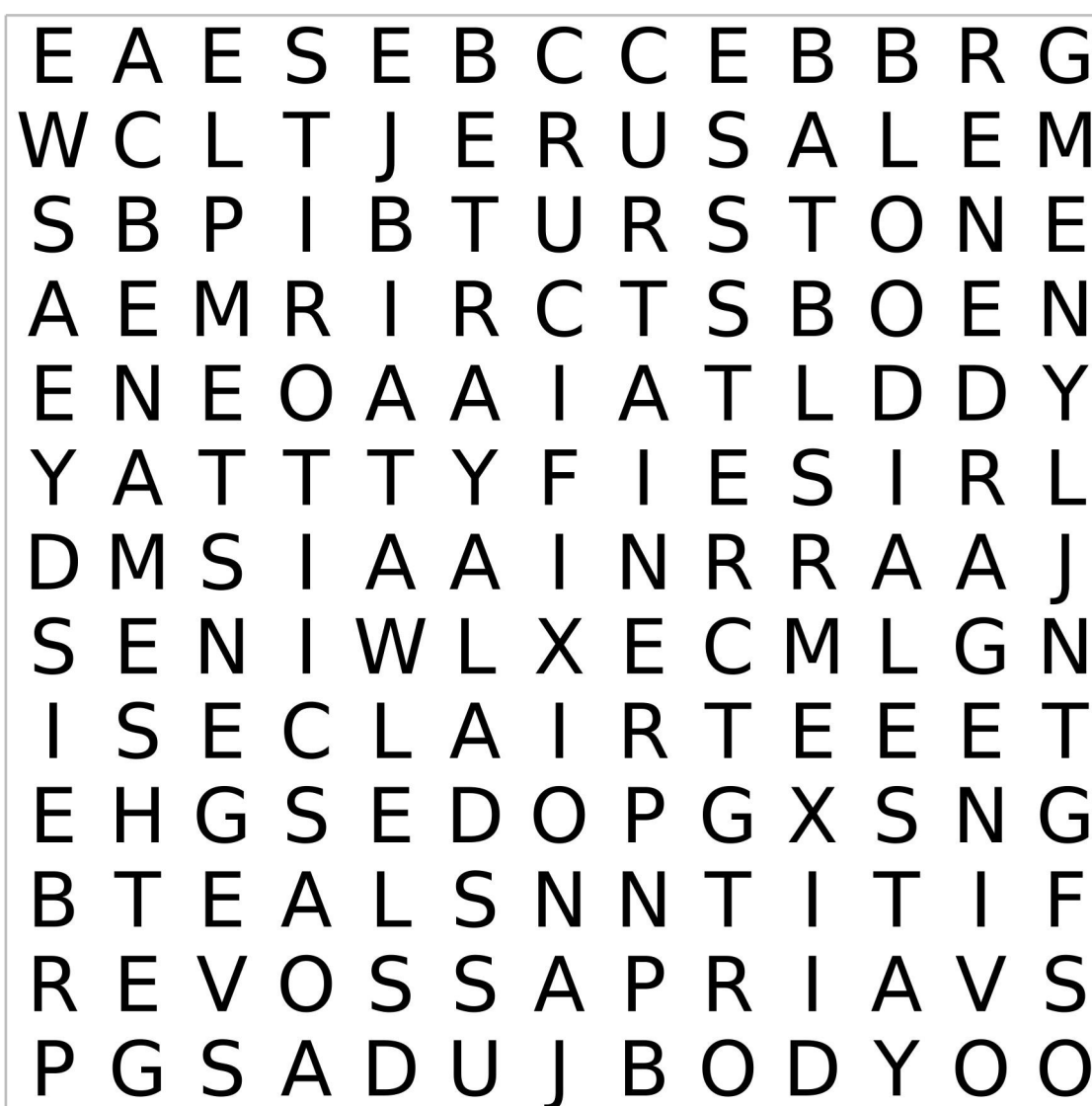
Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Hallelujah! April brings us to Easter – the crucifixion, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ - the triumphant highlight of the Christian year. As St Paul pointed out, unless Jesus really did rise again, our faith is useless, and we may as well forget any hope of heaven or eternal life. But because He does live, we have a sure and certain hope for our future.

- passover
- bread
- wine
- body
- blood
- betrayal

- jerusalem
- pilate
- judas
- gethsemane
- trial
- crucifixion

- soldiers
- cross
- nails
- vinegar
- temple
- curtain

- tomb
- angel
- stone
- risen
- gardener
- Mary




Bible Bite

A short story from the Bible

It can be read in the Bible in
Lk 22:1-13, Mt 26:14-19, Mk 14:10-16


It was just before Passover, when Jews celebrate God rescuing them from Egypt. Jesus and his disciples were in Jerusalem.

The Chief Priests were plotting



How can we get rid of Jesus? He always has crowds around him.

Jesus' disciple Judas came to them...



I could help you.

We'd be happy to pay you





How much?

30 silver coins



30 silver coins happened to be the same amount that had to be paid as compensation to the owner if a slave was killed Ex.31:32



I'll let you know when Jesus is alone.

Meanwhile, Peter and John asked Jesus...



Where do you want us to prepare the Passover meal?

Go into the city and follow the man carrying a water jar to his home

They did, and asked the house owner



Our teacher wants to know where he can eat the Passover meal with his disciples

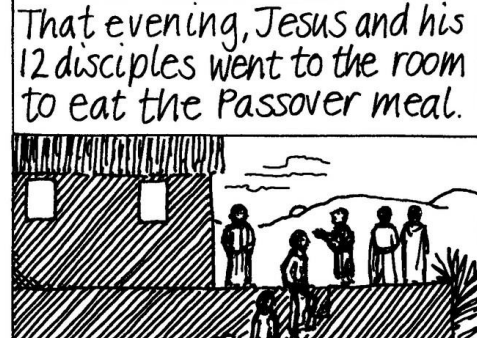
The room is upstairs on the roof, ready to use



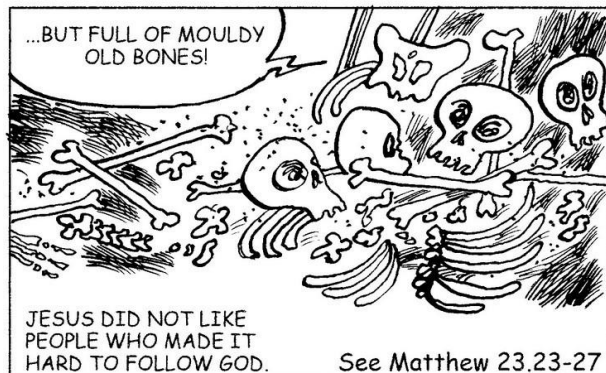
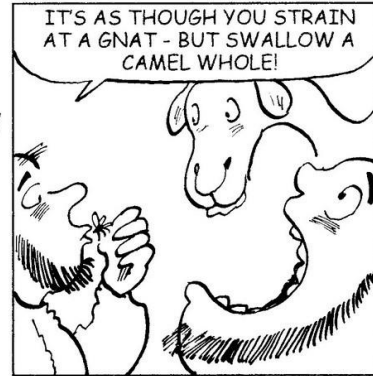
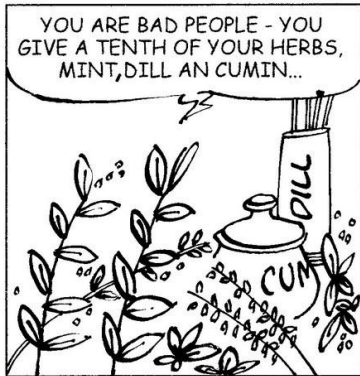
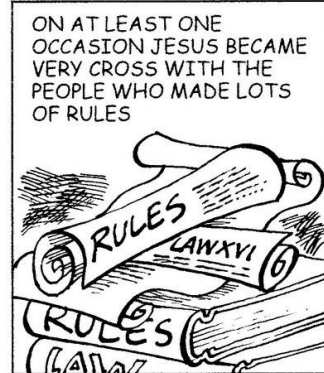
Peter and John got the meal ready

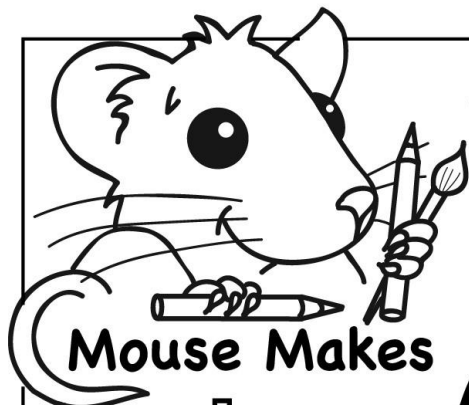


That evening, Jesus and his 12 disciples went to the room to eat the Passover meal.



"Some tough talking"



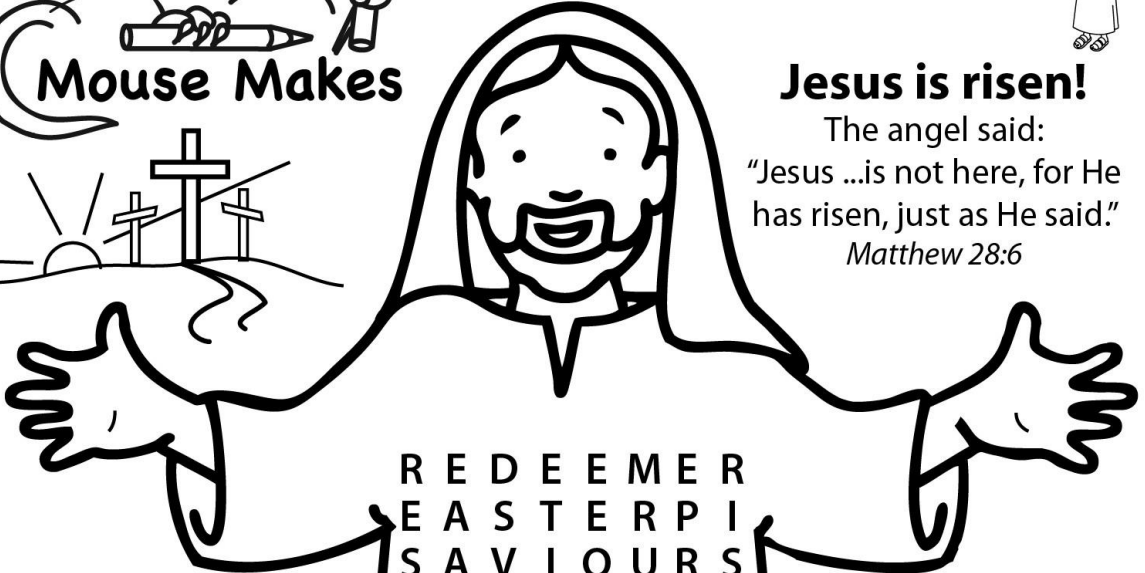


On the cross Jesus opened wide his arms for us.
 Jesus put an end to death by dying for us,
 and showed us the resurrection to
 come by His raising to new life!



Jesus is risen!

The angel said:
 "Jesus ...is not here, for He
 has risen, just as He said."
Matthew 28:6



Jesus is here

Jesus said:
 "Where two or three
 come together
 in my name I am
 there with them."
Matthew 18:20



READ the story of
 the resurrection in:
Matthew 28:1-10
Mark 16:1-19
Luke 24:1-49
John 20:1-29
 and **21:1-14**



R E D E E M E R
 E A S T E R P I
 S A V I O U R S
 U L T I M J A E
 R I E D E L I N
 R V J E S U S S
 E E W B S P E P
 C C L O I S S N
 T H O S A N N A
 I R R O H Y E U
 O I D N P P W S
 N S G O T E L L
 K T A F O A I O
 I Y O G J C F R
 N U J O Y E E B
 G O O D N E W S



**Jesus will
 come again!**

Jesus said:
 "I will come back
 and take you to
 myself so that you
 will be where I am."
John 14:3



JESUS • ALIVE • RISEN
 LORD • SAVIOUR • KING



RESURRECTION

PEACE • NEW LIFE • JOY • GOOD NEWS

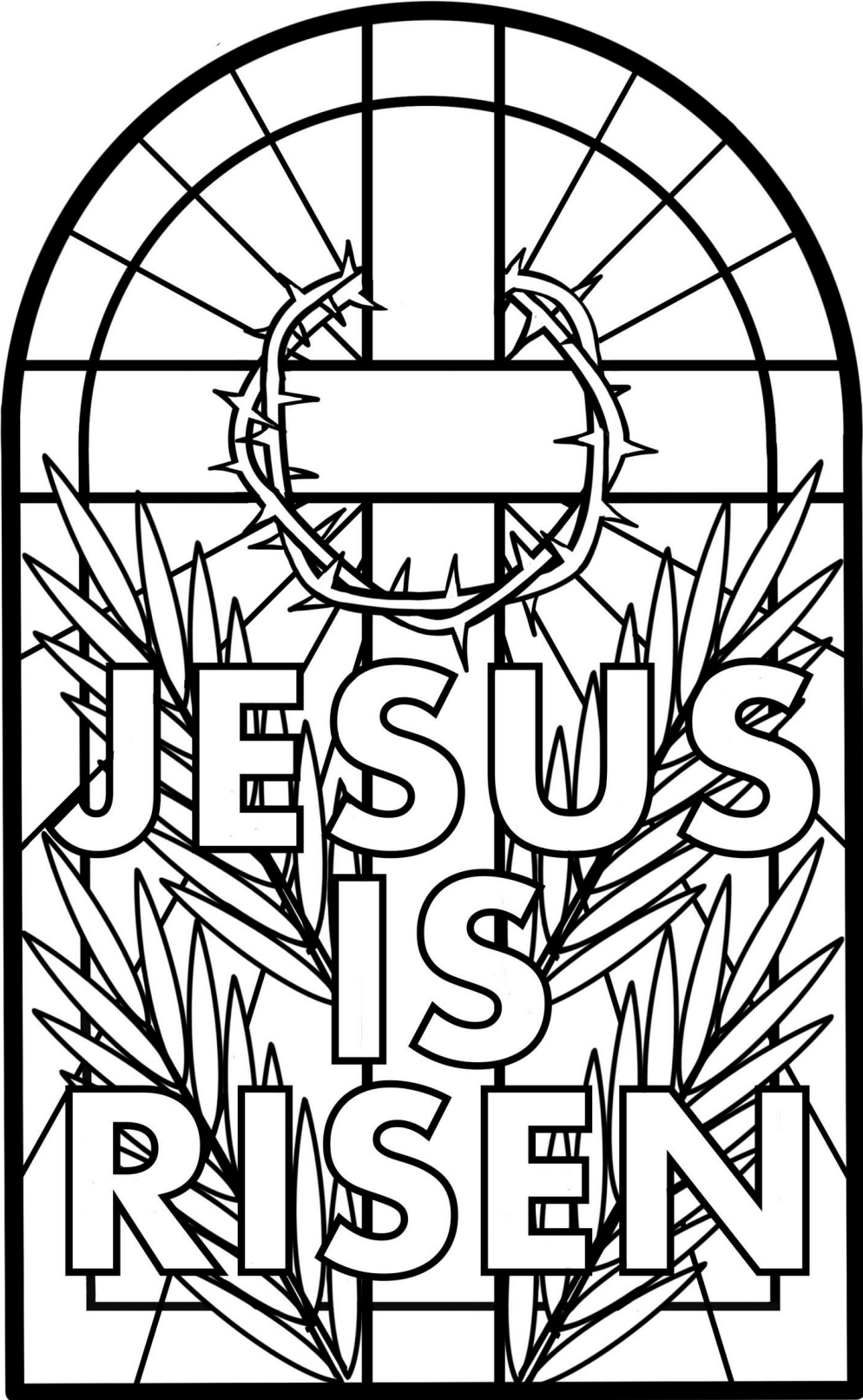
MESSIAH • REDEEMER
 CHRIST • SON OF GOD

HOSANNA • PRAISE

GO TELL • EASTER



Some colouring for all ages....



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