

# INFORM



## URC

VAN ROAD  
CAERPHELLI  
APRIL 2021

### **CHURCH OFFICERS**

#### **Church Secretary**

Mrs Margaret Craig

Tel: 02920 867487

E-mail: [Margaret\\_craig@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:Margaret_craig@hotmail.co.uk)

#### **Church Treasurer**

Mr Rob Moverley

Tel: 02920 866336

E-mail: [robmoverley@gmail.com](mailto:robmoverley@gmail.com)

#### **Pulpit Secretary**

Ms Lynda Jones

Tel: 02920 884022

E-mail: [Lynda.jones58@gmail.com](mailto:Lynda.jones58@gmail.com)

Website:

[www.vanroadurc.org](http://www.vanroadurc.org)

**An Elder writes .....**

Mary got up early to visit the grave of Jesus, but to her surprise, the body of Jesus was missing. In His place were angels, real angels, and they said to her, "He is not here, He is risen." (Matt 28:6).

Surely the words of the angels at the empty tomb, "He is not here, but is risen," are among the most significant words ever spoken, (Luke 24:6),

The life of Jesus, His death, burial and resurrection allowed a new plan of Salvation for all humankind. This better and more perfect way was God's "New Covenant" with His people. Salvation and Eternal life were now available to anyone who would believe and accept Jesus as their Saviour.

Every time we take the bread & drink the cup of the New Covenant we are proclaiming that Jesus is the Messiah, the Lamb of God, and Saviour of the world.

Jesus is the true message of Easter, and because Of Him we can have a relationship with God, and be with Him for eternity.

Easter brings hope, new beginnings, and Eternal Life, made possible by the One who loved us enough to die in our place, Jesus Christ.

For much of the world, Easter is only a tradition celebrated by coloured Easter Eggs and the Easter Bunny.

To the Followers of Christ, the true message of Easter proclaims the greatest act of love known to humankind.

God's infinite love for us is the true message of Easter, a love that will continue into Eternity.

Halleluia!  
Jesus is risen!  
He is risen indeed!



I wish you an Easter full of Christ's peace, joy, and blessings,  
Lynda.

**Church Services  
Worship**



**April 1st      14:00—15:00 Good Friday**  
**Call in to share a short time for personal prayer and reflection,**  
**Peter Speakman on the piano from 14:15**

**April 4th      10.30am short Easter Day service**  
**Led by Mr Rob Moverley**

**Strict precautionary measures will be adhered to.**  
**Please inform Margaret Craig if you intend to come for either day. A guide as to when and how long you might stay on the Friday would be helpful.**  
**Dates for future services have yet to be decided upon.**

**From the Editor ....**

I think everyone is cheered up by seeing spring sunshine, birds and flowers. Spring often brings a new sense of optimism.

We planted more daffodils last year, in the garden and in pots and we are pleased to see that most have made an appearance.

The problem is that when I look out to the back garden at the daffodils in the pots there are never any facing my way, even if I turn the pots they are fickle and turn away again when I am not looking. Of course, they want to face the morning sun.

At Easter, following the harrowing events of Good Friday, we are relieved also to turn back to the sun. To turn to the joy and optimism that the resurrection brings.

I was once told that the actual meaning of the word, 'repent,' is, 'turn to God.'

As these challenging times are easing we continue to 'turn to God' and give thanks for the amazing Jesus.



Wishing you love and joy for Easter.

Diane.

**Remember, alternative church worship can be found at -**

**daily devotions@urc.org.uk**

**CHRISTIAN AID IN LENT**

**'The generous will themselves be blessed, for they share their food with the poor.'**

**(Proverbs 22:9)**

**There will be offertory plates in church at Easter and on Good Friday for any donations for Christian Aid.**

**Thank you!**

**PLEASE BUY FAIR TRADE**

**This pandemic has caused so many hardships both at home and abroad. Developing nations are hit worst of all. Buying fairly traded goods goes a small way to helping our neighbours in these very difficult times.**

**Thank you!**

**SAD NEWS**

We were sorry to hear of the death of Nester Jones who was 100 last year. She was a much loved member of the community and loyally served in Tabor, Maesycwmer and Bethany, Ystrad Mynach. She will be greatly missed.

## The Easter Story

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

HE IS RISEN      REJOICE      CROSS      PALMS  
 LAST SUPPER      RESURRECTION      ALLELUIA  
 JOY      TOMB      BREAD      WINE      MARY      PEACE  
 DISCIPLES      PETER      CROWN      THORNS      LOVE  
 REDEEMER      BELIEVE      MORNING

## Together In Prayer



Please pray for ...

April

4th

Hebron URC, Mostyn and Templeton URC,  
Narbeth

East Timor, Indonesia, The Philippines

11th

Rivertown URC, Shotton and Tabernacle URC,  
Pembroke

Japan, North Korea, South Korea, Taiwan

18th

Libanus with Barham URC, Ebbw Vale,  
St John's Methodist / URC, Tenby

Djibouti, Somalia, Somaliland

25th

Tabernacle URC, Llanvaches, St David's  
Presbyterian Church of Wales / URC,  
Aberystwyth

Eritrea, Ethiopia



## Good wishes from Letchlaid

Diana Hibbert sends all at Van Road her love and best wishes for Easter. We also send Diana our love and wish her Easter blessings.

**We hold in our prayers -**

**Jean Mutter    Frank Frayling    Roy Collins**  
**Rev Malcolm Shapland            Diana Hibbert**  
**Vernon Holland    Barbara Lloyd**  
**Carol Booth            The Holdsworth Family**  
**Dorothy Woodward            Judy and Rod Jarman**  
**The family and friends of Nester Jones**



**All affected in any way by Coronavirus in the UK, Europe and in developing nations.**

**All those working in the NHS and in Social Care.**

**Those who have died and their loved ones.**

**Shop workers, delivery people, post people, milk people, transport workers,**

**Teachers and children**

**Those who have lost their employment and those fearful for their jobs.**

**Neighbourhood volunteers, scientists, researchers and makers of testing kits and PPE and vaccines.**

**Those countries facing conflict.**

**Those organising and administering the vaccines.**



**EASTER MESSAGE**

The message of Good Friday and Easter have to carry a relevant message to our situation today, or they are no more than a record of past events.

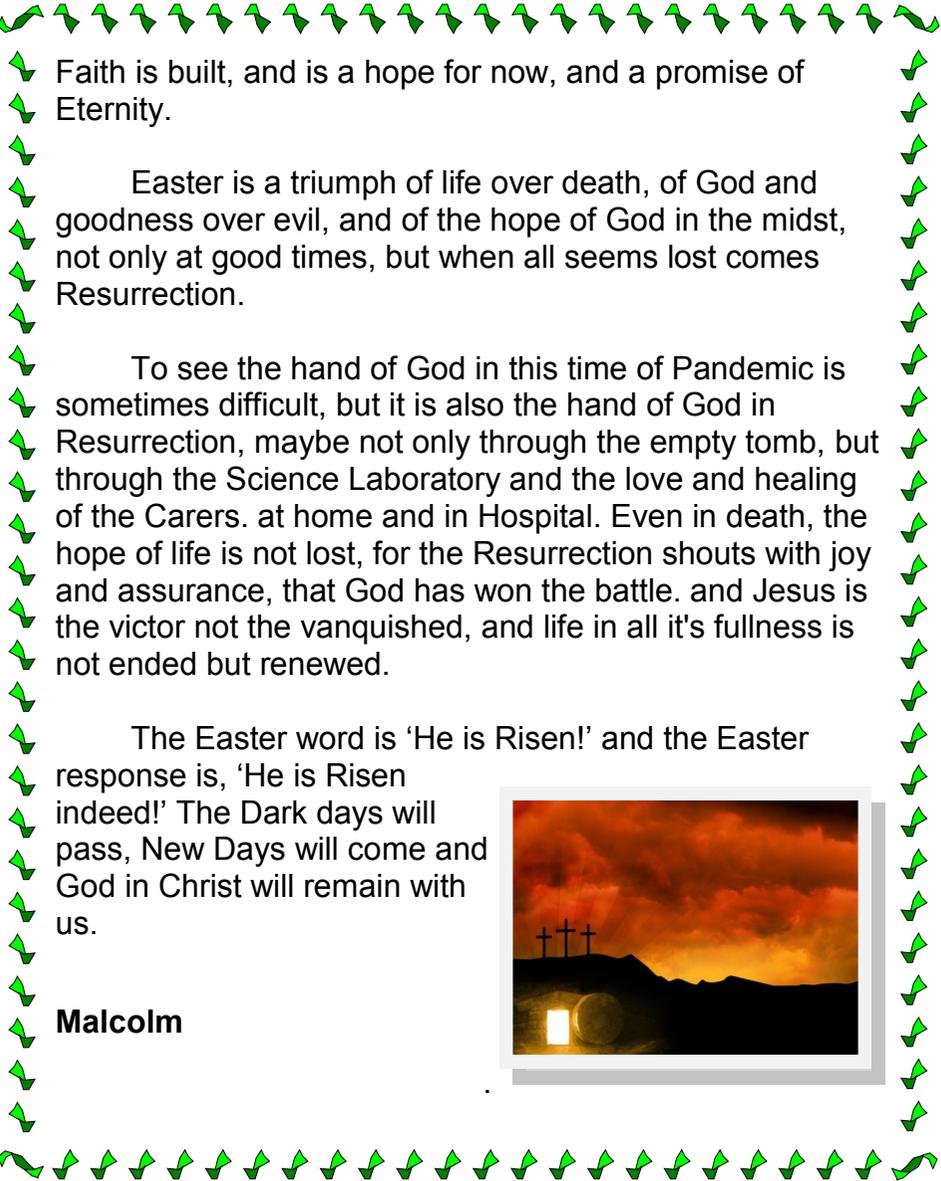
We believe those happenings of Crucifixion and Resurrection are not only a record of the past happenings in the life of Jesus, but have a strong bearing on our Faith and beliefs today.

Good Friday. Crucifixion, end of a ministry. The disciples in dismay and disarray, not sure whether to go home, or stay and wait and see, doubt and confusion and What Now? Not an unknown feeling for some of us People of Faith, because Faith is sometimes uncertainty or doubt., and some of the greatest and most devout Christians have such times.

Crucifixion is the seeming end of all hopes and dreams of a new life and Kingdom and the disciples certainly knew that feeling of final defeat. So come Easter day, the women go to the tomb to prepare the body of Jesus for proper burial, and when they arrive, grave open, and no body. Instead of shouting 'Resurrection, 'they shout 'Robbery!'

Someone tells them, 'He is Risen. 'They return to tell the disciples, who respond with, 'Nonsense! No way!' and do not believe.

I find that a comfort, that my own doubts are not unique to me. Others share them. But for all the doubts and dismay, Faith still holds to the belief that the Resurrection is the very heart and bedrock on which our



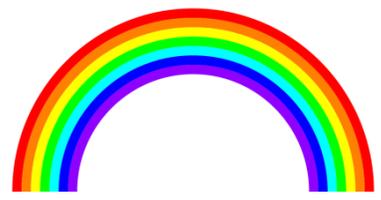
Faith is built, and is a hope for now, and a promise of Eternity.

Easter is a triumph of life over death, of God and goodness over evil, and of the hope of God in the midst, not only at good times, but when all seems lost comes Resurrection.

To see the hand of God in this time of Pandemic is sometimes difficult, but it is also the hand of God in Resurrection, maybe not only through the empty tomb, but through the Science Laboratory and the love and healing of the Carers. at home and in Hospital. Even in death, the hope of life is not lost, for the Resurrection shouts with joy and assurance, that God has won the battle. and Jesus is the victor not the vanquished, and life in all it's fullness is not ended but renewed.

The Easter word is 'He is Risen!' and the Easter response is, 'He is Risen indeed!' The Dark days will pass, New Days will come and God in Christ will remain with us.

**Malcolm**



FROM -

**Merlin, Swift, Jenni Wren and Robin aka Sue, Emma, Jen and Lynda**

We would like to share a good news story about our 2<sup>nd</sup> Caerphilly Rainbows. We have been unable to meet in Van Road since 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2020, however, ably assisted by Merlin, we are keeping in touch via regular Zoom meetings.

Jenni Wren teaches us funny action songs, we read stories and show and tell our craft work. We have posted craft packs for autumn, Christmas, St David's Day, Mothers' Day and we will shortly be posting a craft pack for Easter.

We were able to take part on You Tube for 'World Thinking Day.' Rainbows and leaders were able to make their promise. We are looking forward to a time when Corvid-19 rules may allow us to meet outside in a park for fun and games.



**“What is this life if full of care,  
we have no time to stand and stare.  
From 'Leisure' by W.H.Davis**

If you go to Roath Park lake, and as my vicar said,  
“stopped and stared,” you would be amazed at the pictures  
you see.

My daughter and I were fortunate enough to see a  
heron perched on one of the islands near the Wild  
Gardens. The same day we saw him flying over our heads;  
what a wide wing span!

Another day we saw a Kingfisher - a beautiful bird full  
of colour. We also saw a wren, so small..

These birds are literally on our doorsteps if only we  
take the time to, '*look and see*'. Something else that  
moves me deeply is a Welsh Male Voice Choir, I count my  
blessings that I live in the 'Gwlad Y Gan' (or canu) hearing  
the birds and choir.

Veronica Moverley



**Congratulations!**

**Fond Birthday Greetings to—**

**Veronica Moverley**

**Aged 99 on March 30th**

**Lectionary Readings**



**March**

**29th Holy Week-Isaiah 42:1-9; Psalm 36:5-11;  
Hebrews 9:11-15; John 12:1-11**

**30th Isaiah 49:1-7; Psalm 71:1-14;  
1 Corinthians 1:18-31; John 12:20-36**

**31st Isaiah 50:4-9a; Psalm 70; Hebrews 2:1-3;  
John 13:21-32**

**1st Maundy Thursday-Exodus 12:1-4, 11-14;  
Psalm 116:1-2,12-19; 1  
Corinthians 11:23-26; John 13:1-17, 3-35b**

**2nd Good Friday– Isaiah 52:15-53:12;  
Psalm 22; Hebrews 10:16-25; John 18:1-19**

**3rd Holy Saturday– Job 144:1-14;  
Psalm 31:1-4, 15-16; 1 Peter 4:1-8;  
Matthew 27:57-66 or John 18:38-42**

**4th Easter Day– Acts 10: 34-43; Psalm118:1-2,  
14-24; 1 Corinthians 15:1-11; John 20:1-18  
or Mark 16:1-8**

**11th Acts 4: 32-35; Psalm 133; John 20:19-31;  
1 John 1:1-2:2**

Lectionary Readings

18th Acts 3:12-19; Psalm 4; 1 John 3:1-7;  
Luke 24:36b-48

25th Acts 4:5-12; Psalm 23; 1 John 3:16-24;  
John 10:11-18



Good Friday

I am I a stone, and not a sheep,  
That I can stand, O Christ, beneath Thy cross,  
To number drop by drop Thy blood's slow loss,  
And yet not weep?

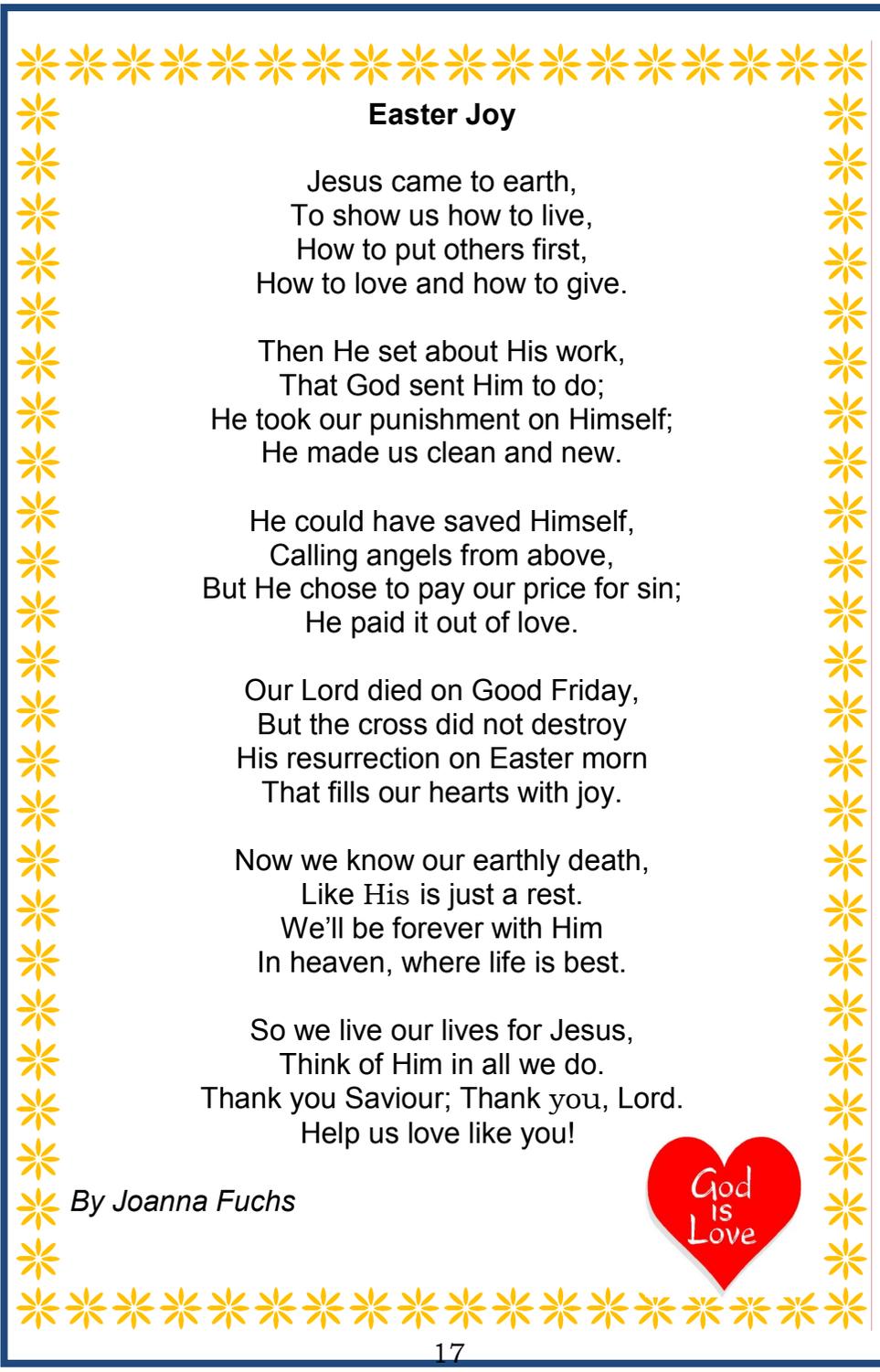
Not so those women loved  
Who with exceeding grief lamented Thee;  
Not so fallen Peter, weeping bitterly;  
Not so the thief was moved;

Not so the Sun and Moon  
Which hid their faces in a starless sky,  
A horror of great darkness at broad noon –  
I, only I.

Yet give not o'er,  
But seek Thy sheep, true Shepherd of the flock;  
Greater than Moses, turn and look once more  
And smite a rock.

Christina Rosetti





## Easter Joy

Jesus came to earth,  
To show us how to live,  
How to put others first,  
How to love and how to give.

Then He set about His work,  
That God sent Him to do;  
He took our punishment on Himself;  
He made us clean and new.

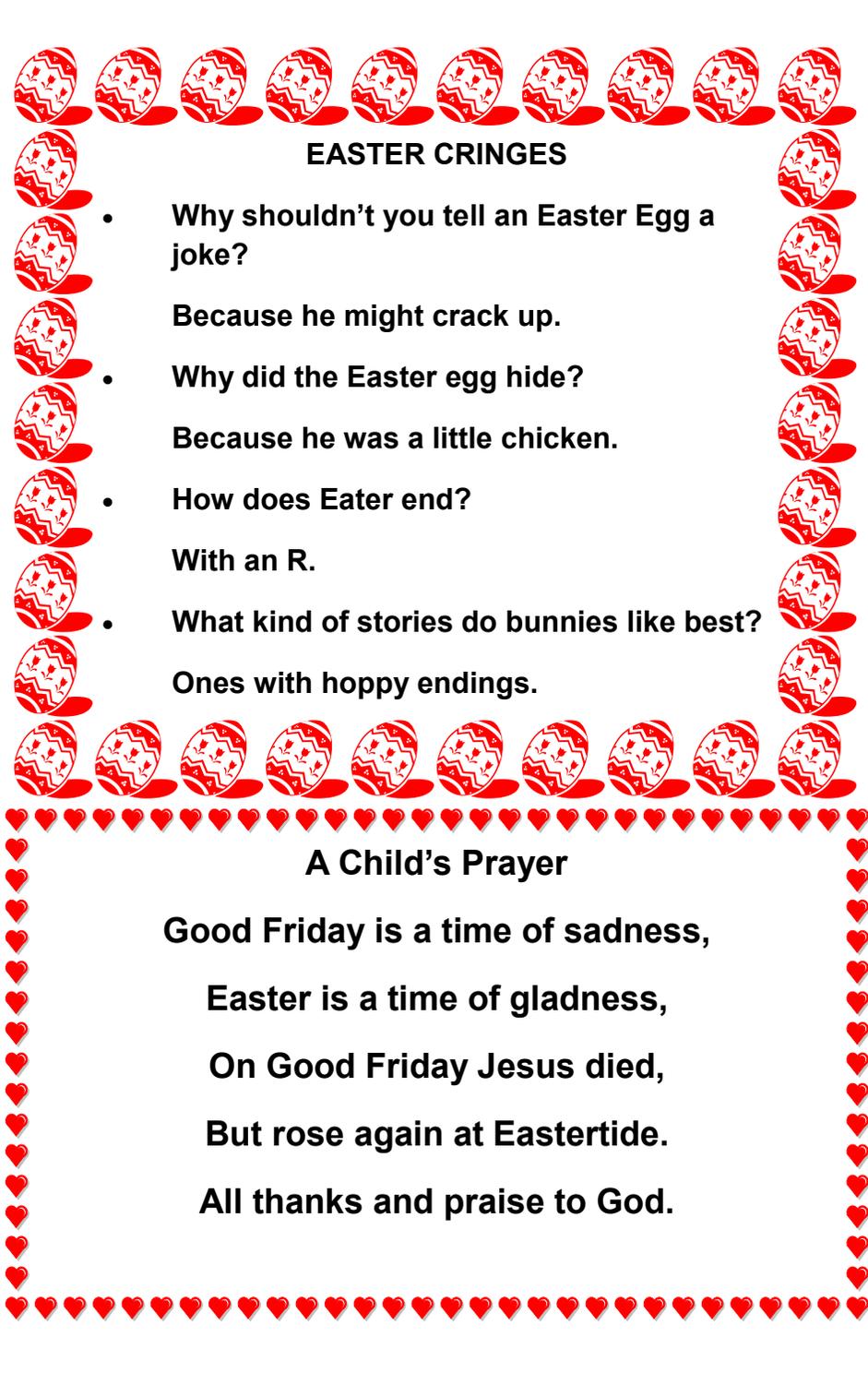
He could have saved Himself,  
Calling angels from above,  
But He chose to pay our price for sin;  
He paid it out of love.

Our Lord died on Good Friday,  
But the cross did not destroy  
His resurrection on Easter morn  
That fills our hearts with joy.

Now we know our earthly death,  
Like His is just a rest.  
We'll be forever with Him  
In heaven, where life is best.

So we live our lives for Jesus,  
Think of Him in all we do.  
Thank you Saviour; Thank you, Lord.  
Help us love like you!

*By Joanna Fuchs*



## EASTER CRINGES

- **Why shouldn't you tell an Easter Egg a joke?**  
**Because he might crack up.**
- **Why did the Easter egg hide?**  
**Because he was a little chicken.**
- **How does Eater end?**  
**With an R.**
- **What kind of stories do bunnies like best?**  
**Ones with hoppy endings.**

## A Child's Prayer

**Good Friday is a time of sadness,  
Easter is a time of gladness,  
On Good Friday Jesus died,  
But rose again at Eastertide.  
All thanks and praise to God.**

## CHURCH ELDERS

Mrs Enfys Hawthorn	02920 866840
Mrs Emma Fitzgerald	02920 821525
Ms Lynda Jones	02920 884022
Mr Robert Moverley	02920 866336
Mrs Cathy Vernalls	02920 887112
Mrs Phyllis Frayling	02920 862285
Mrs Margaret Baldwin	02920 867027

Any items for the next edition should be  
submitted by the 19th of the month

to

Mrs Diane Moverley

[dianemoverley60@gmail.com](mailto:dianemoverley60@gmail.com)

(or if not on e mail then items can be left  
in the box at the back of the sanctuary)

