

SERVICES AT OUR CHURCHES

Sunday 9:30 am Sunday 11:00 am Wednesday 10:00 am Bible Study at St Barnabas

Worship at St Barnabas Worship at Holy Trinity

Led by Robin Wilding

Wednesday 7:00pm

Worship on Wednesday (WOW) at Holy Trinity

PEOPLE AT OUR CHURCHES

Vicar Post vacant

Community Worker

Treasurer & Gift-Aid

StB Centre Manager

HT Parish Hall Manager Daniel Reilly

Lay Readers Peter Haslam 0161 345 0215 Lucie Reilly 07880 861751 Wardens Peter Haslam (StB) 0161 345 0215 Val Crane (HT) 0161 628 4977 John Wolstencroft (HT) 0161 620 2401 07708 714813 StB Administrator Sarah Gura 07765 963899 **HT Church Secretary Zoe Liles**

MaryAnne Oduntan

MaryAnne Oduntan

Mrs Vicky Heaton

07908 004682

07906 077058

07788 860764

07908 004682

To sign up for the magazine online, or to send contributions, please email Sarah Wilding at sarah.churchmag@gmail.com



Dear lovely people

I think Jesus must have really enjoyed the resurrection. Not only was he free of all the agony he had just suffered, he had woken up in a completely renewed and spiritual body, able to do things the old body could not. He could appear and disappear; he could come into locked rooms; he could eat and drink while apparently not needing the unpleasant waste disposal. How cool is that? And we are told we will receive a body like this at the resurrection. Can't wait. And then Jesus got to see his disciples grief turn to joy, and to watch as they finally grasped all he had been telling them. We know his brothers were less than impressed with his claims, so I would like to have been a fly on the wall as Jesus revealed himself to them and saw their reaction. It brings to mind a cartoon picture of James with his eyes popping out of his head and his jaw hitting the ground.

It is interesting that the disciples did not recognise Jesus when they saw him out and about: Mary thought he was the gardener and those on the road thought he was a fellow traveller, until some trick of speech or mannerism revealed him. I once failed to recognise my own father when I was not expecting to see him. I walked past him on the street and it was not until he spoke that I realised this elderly man in a tweed jacket was my dad! The picture I carried of him in my head was not the same as the reality; for one thing he had shrunk with age to my height but I still thought of him as a six footer. And he was older in real life. The reality of Jesus' new appearance was far different from how his friends remembered him, yet he was still the same person.

Sometimes Jesus reveals himself to us in surprising ways, ways that we would not expect. Let's be open to seeing him differently and make sure we don't miss out on what he wants to teach us by clinging to the past. Who knows? We too may find our hearts 'burning within us' (Luke 24:32). Let's enjoy what he wants to show us.

Sarah W

Bible readings for April

Sunday 6 April

Lent 5

First: Isaiah 43:16-21 Second: Philippians 3:4b-14

Gospel: John 12:1-8

Friday 19 April Good Friday

First: Isaiah 52:13-end of 53 Second: Hebrews 10:16-25 Gospel: John 18:1-end of 19

Sunday 27 April

Easter 2

First: Acts 5:27-32 Second: Revelation 1:4-8 Gospel: John 20:19-end

Sunday 13 April Palm Sunday

First: Isaiah 50:4-9a Second: Philippians 2:5-11 Gospel: Luke 22:14-end of 23

Sunday 20 April Easter Day

First: Isaiah 65:17-end Second: Acts 10:34-43 Gospel: John 29:1-18

Preachers:

Robin, Rachel Watts Easter Services: Bishop David

Lucie

Church Diary

Services will be at the usual times unless otherwise stated.

Sunday 13 April: Palm Sunday.

Thursday 17 April: Maundy Thursday; 7:00pm at Holy Trinity.

Friday 18 April: Good Friday; 9:30 at St Barnabas.

Sunday 20 April: Easter Day.

Sunday 27 April: AGM at St Barnabas; after the service (10:30). Sunday 4 May: AGM at Holy Trinty; after the service (12:00).

Saturday 17 May: Quiz Night; 7:30pm at Holy Trinity



From the church and parish

Electoral Roll

It is time for the electoral roll at both churches to be renewed. This is the official record of the churches' membership and enables you to vote at meetings. If you consider either church to be your home church, please fill in one of the forms, which are simple and straightforward, and return to Pete (StB) or Lucie (HTW).

Holy Trinity Quiz Night, Saturday 17th May 2025

We will be holding our next Quiz Night on Saturday 17th May in the Parish Hall. The quiz will start at 7.30pm, so please take your places as soon after 7pm as possible so that we can start promptly. Getting there early will give you a head start on one of the picture rounds so bring your friends to make up your team (maximum of 6 people per team, please). Tickets are £5 for adults and that includes nibbles and a (mostly) cheese buffet supper. Children under 12 are free and for those between 12 and 18 years of age tickets are £3.

The bar will be open and there will be a raffle as well as a cash prize of £30 for the winning team. If anyone would like to donate a raffle prize please contact Lynne Schofield on 07804 094457. The money raised will

go towards the new kitchen in the Parish Hall. We have already secured some grant funding for this but will need to raise more to cover the full cost, so come along for a fun evening and help us to make the new kitchen a reality.



Ever been an only one
With strangers all around you?
Ever been a stranger
In a group that's just a clique?
Ever been deserted
In a place where no-one's found you?
Ever been an outcast
In a world that thinks you're a freak?
I guess I'm sick with loneliness
The sickness of succeeding generations.

Yes, times have changed
And re-arranged
In just a horrid hour.
The whole of life so insecure
Has turned from sweet to sour.

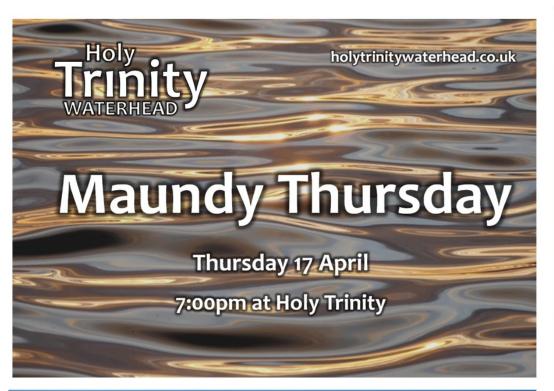
Call me Peter,
Misunderstood,
Call me Peter,
The Rock that moved.

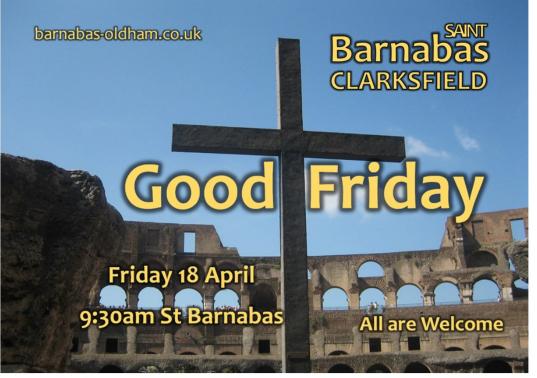
And I look into the flame
And I hear the voice of Jesus
And my pride is turned to shame
And I hear the piercing cockcrow
And I hear the piercing cockcrow
And the dawn begins to break.
And I see the eyes of Jesus
And my heart begins to ache.
And I mix with cruel soldiers
And I curse and spit and lie.
And I know the mind of Jesus
And the tears cloud up my eyes.

Call me Peter,
Call me Peter,
The Rock that moved.

Robert Frost







He is the lonely greatness of the world (His eyes are dim),
His power it is holds up the Cross
That holds up him.

He takes the sorrow of the threefold hour
(His eyelids close),

Round him and round, the wind - His Spirit -where

It listeth blows.

And so the wounded greatness of the world
In silence lies And death is shattered by the light from out
Those darkened eyes.

Madeleine Caron Rock From *Poems of Today*

mage: vecteezy_ahasanaraakte

He is the Lonely Greatness

Death - Another View

Professor John Radford asserts ([Mensa] Magazine, January) that "at death human beings, and all living creatures cease to exist". He goes on to assert that "if human beings survived death we might expect to find some evidence of it. But there is none and there never has been any."

Leaving aside the fact that many people (spiritualists for example) would claim that such evidence does exist, there is another factor which merits consideration. Our perception of time is very limited and almost certainly imperfect. I suppose it would be generally agreed that we perceive time as a straight line along which we appear to travel at a constant rate in one direction only. We can observe directly only what is happening "now". Memory and records left by ourselves and others give us some knowledge of what we call "the past" but our impression of what "the future" may hold are, at best, educated guesses. Because of the way we have evolved (or been created depending on one's religious point of view) any other impression of time seems impossible for us.

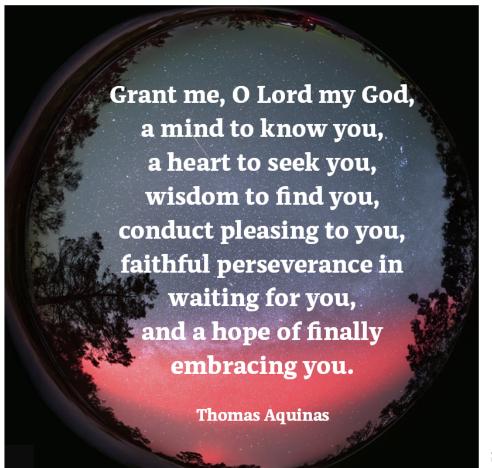
Now, a family of caterpillars crawling along an overhead telephone wire might have no more perception of space than we do of time and so might justifiably come to the conclusion that space goes in just one straight line; and if one caterpillar were to be flicked off the wire the others might well say he had ceased to exist, since they can have no knowledge of any other environment than the wire.

Suppose, then, that "our" time is in some way analogous to that telephone wire. Common sense suggests there must be other, similar, lines at right angles to it and to each other, though we are totally incapable of recognising them. What we call "death" could thus describe what happens (as observed by those still living in this world). Like the caterpillar flicked off the wire, he seems to have ceased to exist.

This, of course, is pure speculation. It will not appeal to scientists who insist on proving everything by experiment before accepting it, for it is obviously impossible to carry out experiments on anything which we are simply not programmed to perceive. And that, perhaps, is a fundamental weakness of science; that its practitioners will not admit the possibility of anything that their five senses (aided sometimes by instruments) cannot observe and measure. They are convinced that, given enough experiments, mankind will be able to understand and explain everything.

Which, I submit, is unlikely.

Jeffery Davis, from Mensa Magazine, June 1999



When I go don't cry for me
In my father's arms I'll be
Wounds this world left on my soul
Will all be healed and I'll be whole
Sun and moon will be replaced
with the light of Jesus' face
And I will not be ashamed
for my saviour knows my name

It don't matter where you bury me
I'll be home and I'll be free
It don't matter where I lay
All my tears be washed away

Gold and silver blind the eye
Temporary riches lie
Come and eat from heaven's store
Come and drink and thirst no more
So weep not for me my friend
when my time below does end
For my life belongs to Him
who will raise the dead again

It don't matter....

Julie Miller

Listen here: https://youtu.be/EmDCHD6Bnc4

It's All Greek to Me...

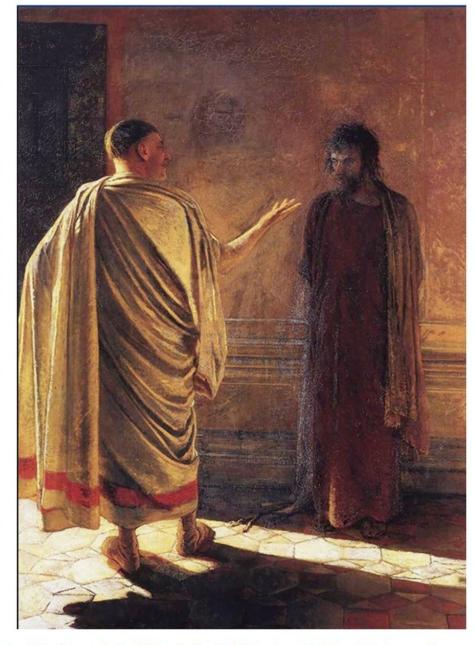
... tense and moody

The tense of a verb generally refers to the time at which an action took place, though it also may include the way something happens. The most well-known tenses in English are past, present and future but there are many others. Greek has even more tenses than English and even when they are named the same, they might be used differently.

The present tense in Greek is always continuous, rather than something that just happens once. So if I say in English 'I throw the ball', that would more nearly be 'I am throwing ($ball\bar{o}$ – present) the ball' in Greek. It makes for cumbersome reading to always translate it that way so scholars generally put the Greek present into the English form; it does not make much difference to the meaning. There are two main past tenses in Greek, and all past tenses add an e on the front of the word. The imperfect is like the present: a continuous action in the past such as 'I was throwing (eballon - imperfect) the ball'. The aorist, however, is a single action in the past which just happens once and then stops: 'I threw (eballa - aorist) the ball into the net'.

In addition, Greek also has a mood for giving instructions, called the imperative. Thus if I tell you to throw (balle - imperative) the ball to me, the word has yet another form. The Greek also has a much used subjunctive mood, which is a conditional statement or doubtful statement, such as 'I might throw the ball' or 'if I throw the ball, it might hit the window' (This is difficult to transliterate into English as the letters have subscripts). The subjunctive also follows statements such as 'so that' or 'lest' and is used when a person is undecided about an action or idea.

Among many other and often complex tenses is the perfect tense. The Greek form is different from the English perfect and does not readily translate into English. It indicates a present state resulting from an action in the past. It is usually rendered as a simple past or present. Thus we find in 1 Cor.15:3,4 that "Christos apethanon (aorist) kai egēgertai (perfect) tē hēmera tē trite", translated as "Christ died and was raised on the third day", actually means 'Christ died and was raised on the third day and is still risen now'. Hallelujah!



Nikolay Nikolayevich Ge, "What is Truth?" Christ and Pilate, 1890. Image from Tretyakov Gallery, Moscow, Russia. Nikolayevich Ge (1831–1894) painted "What is Truth?" late in life after befriending author Leo Tolstoy. The painting was banned from exhibition for blasphemy. Delighted with the work, Tolstoy wrote, "There can be no peace between Christ and the world....this is true to history and true to our own day."

At the Wednesday Bible study we are, under Robin's guidance, working our way through the dramatic, colourful and baffling Book of Revelation. There are many astonishing events foretold in Revelation. Here is one of them: 'The third angel sounded his trumpet, and a great star, blazing like a torch, fell from the sky on a third of the rivers and on the springs of water - the name of the star is Wormwood'. (Revelation 8:10,11), and here is one of several old testament verses: 'O you who turn justice to wormwood, and cast down righteousness to the earth' (Amos 5:7).

Wormwood, undoubtedly a plant reference, represents bitterness in the Old Testament: the bitterness that results when God's people have chosen to go their own way. There is not much evidence linking biblical wormwood references to any particular plant. A good summary is found in the fine *Plants of the Bible* by Professor Michael Zohary of Jerusalem, who spent a lifetime studying biblical flora. While a shrub called white wormwood now covers vast stretches of desert and is used as a tea by the Bedouin, and as a medicine against intestinal worms, it cannot readily be linked to the wormwood of the bible. This desert vegetation has the scientific name *Artemisia herba-alba*.

Our native wormwood is *Artemesia absinthium*. The genus was named for the Greek goddess Artemis and the second part of this name points to the fact that it was a key ingredient in absinthe, the high-octane and (it was thought) madness-inducing liqueur favoured by artists and writers. *Artemisia absinthium* is a handsome grey perennial of waste places and strongly aromatic. In earlier times many such plants were pressed into service as herbs of healing. Writing in 1772, Dr. John Hill assures his patients that an infusion of the herb will 'strengthen digestion, correct aciditie and supply the place of gall, where, as in many constitutions that is deficient'. The directions for use are that small quantities of the infusion are to be mixed with 'two spoonfuls of wine and taken at three draughts an hour'. For a week.

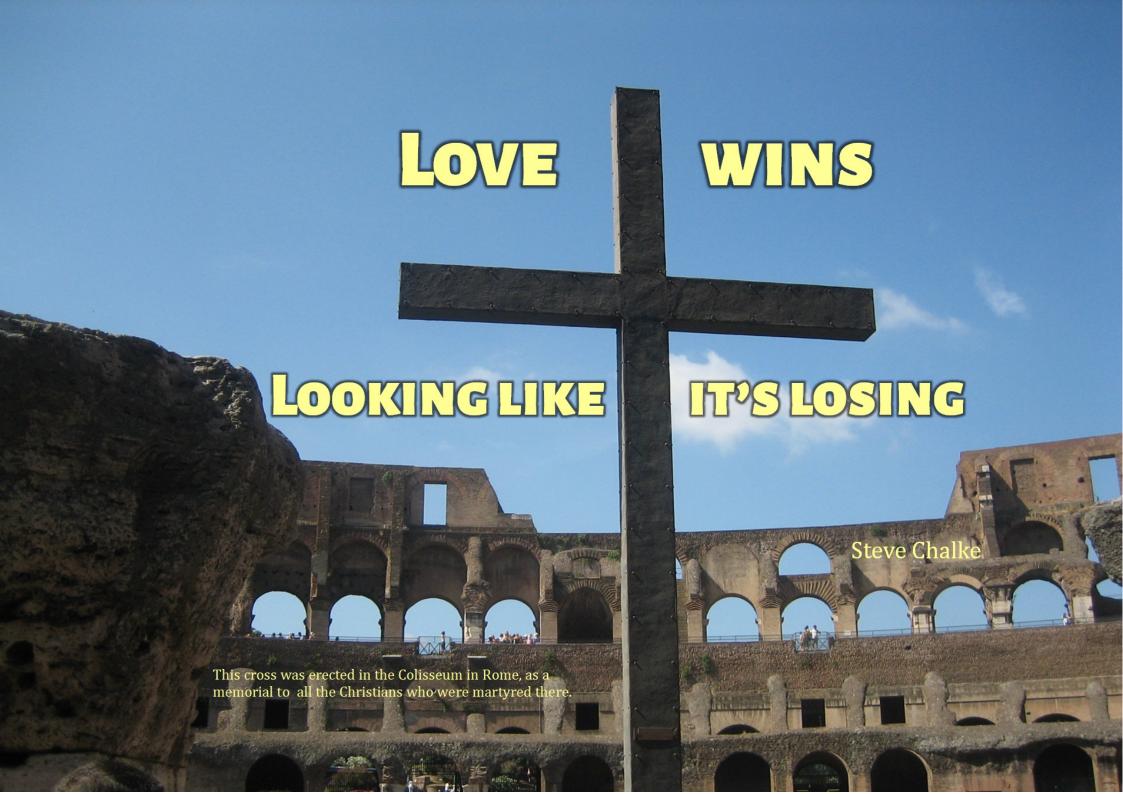
At the time of Ukraine's catastrophic power-plant meltdown (1986), a newspaper report stated that that the name Chernobyl means wormwood. The *Etymology World Online* website shows this to be correct. The name can be translated as 'black wormwood', a common

plant of the region.

Choice wormwoods are available for the garden, one of the best being Artemisia 'Powis Castle', a feathery silver perennial requiring a dry sunny spot.



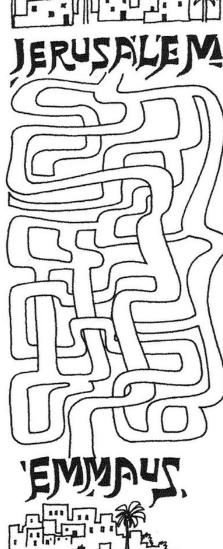
Geoff Lees



Help the two disciples find their way from Jerusalem to Emmaus

Children's Pages





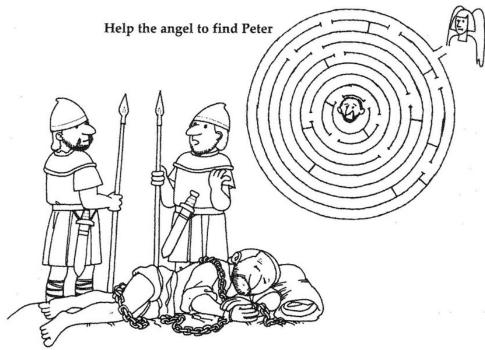
Cross off the wrong words in the boxes to make the story right

It was 3/17 days since Jesus had died, and two of the disciples were going to Jerusalem/Emmaus. Jesus apppeared to them, but they hardly/did not recognise him.

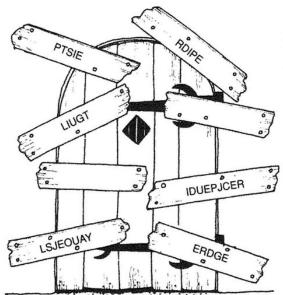
Jesus told them how the prophets/angels in the Old Testament had said about what was going to happen to him.

The disciples/shepherds invited him in to their house, and they recognised him when he broke the chair/bread. Then they knew that Jesus really was alive.





God sets people free



What must we be freed from? Unscramble the words in the planks securing the door and then find them in the wordsearch.

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

Can you think of any more? Write them on the planks.

Up a hill and by the sea



We visited Tel Arad, west of the Dead Sea. It is a very large site, with several layers of archaeology. In the lower part there is an area from the time of Solomon. but our visit concentrated on a very well preserved temple at the top of the hill. This is thought to be a 'high place', destroyed in one of the periodic purges in the

Tour of Israel

Old Testament, by kings seeking to eliminate idolatry. It was filled in with earth and rubble rather than being broken down,

which is why it is so well preserved. The temple was about a third of the size of the Temple in Jerusalem and built on the same layout, with an outer court, holy place and most holy place. In the most holy place there are two stones set up, with very worn carvings on them, one of which appears to be a snake. The altar has a channel all around the rim



for the blood to flow into, which I found rather gruesome and highlights that there was a large element of butchery involved in being a priest.

From there, we went on to visit the fortress of Masada, near the Dead Sea. When it was built, it was on the shore of the sea, but the Dead Sea is shrinking by a massive half a metre a year, mainly because of water being drawn off for irrigation. Masada was built by Herod the Great, and contains some excellent en-



gineering, but it is best known for a poignant event at the end of the Jewish War in AD 72/3. The remains of the Jewish rebels fled to Masada, including women and children, where they were besieged by the Romans. The Romans built a ramp up to the fortress in order to capture it and when the Jews realised they had lost, they committed mass suicide so that they would not be taken.



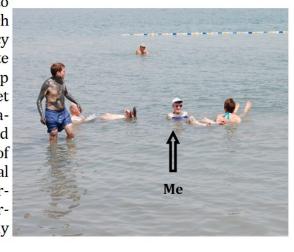
From Masada we moved on to Qumran, where the Dead Sea



Scrolls were discovered. These scrolls were kept and copied by the Essene Community, which was contemporary with Jesus but, interestingly, never mentioned in the Bible. There is a fragment of one of the scrolls that appears to indicate that John the Baptist was part of the Community there but left be-

fore gaining full acceptance. The high priest of the group would dictate to a scribe, then check and initial the scroll. The same initials have also been found on a scroll from Ethiopia.

We had the opportunity to swim in the Dead Sea, which Robin declined. The buoyancy is astonishing and it was quite scary when I went to stand up but could not push my feet down hard enough into the water! I had to turn over and stand up that way. At the risk of sounding like an advert, several of our party plastered ourselves with mud and afterwards, when I showered, my skin was beautifully soft.



In the 13th century, universities were a newly founded institution and Thomas Aquinas was instrumental in developing scholastic method and thought. He was inspired by Aristotle, who had emphasised the application of intelligence and reason. Aquinas applied Aristotelian ideas to philosophy and theology and built something new. He also wrote many beautiful hymns. His way of thinking provided building blocks for the Reformation and he is seen by the Roman Catholic Church as its foremost Western philosopher and theologian.

"According to Aquinas, reason is able to operate within faith and yet according to its own laws. The mystery of God is expressed and incarnate in human language; it is thus able to become the object of an active, conscious, and organized elaboration in which the rules and structures of rational activity are integrated in the light of faith. In the Aristotelian sense of the word, then (although not in the modern sense), theology is a "science"; it is knowledge that is rationally derived from propositions that are accepted as certain because they are revealed by God." (Britannica.com)

Thomas was born around 1225 in Roccasecca, Italy, the youngest of at least 9 children. His family was wealthy and presided over the district from their castle, on a border contested by the emperor and the pope. While a young boy, he was enrolled into a local monastery, where his family hoped he would rise to become influential. In 1239, however, the emperor expelled the monks and Thomas returned home until he went to study in Naples as a teenager. There he was influenced by the newly formed Dominican Order, which was devoted to preaching and learning. He joined the order at the age of 19 and was assigned to Paris for further study. His parents objected strongly and had Thomas kidnapped on the way and confined him to the castle for a year before they relented.

Thomas spent three years in Paris, then went to Cologne in 1248, where he studied under Albert the Great, an older Dominican who was a leading figure in a new programme to integrate Christianity with Greek and Arab philosophy. Thomas embraced his mentor's idea that the Christian faith could only benefit from engagement with philosophy and science. When, in 1252, Albert was asked to nominate a stu-

dent for an advanced degree in theology at the university of Paris, he nominated Thomas even though he was two years under the minimum age. Thomas achieved his bachelor's degree and then went on to complete a doctorate. Straight away, he was appointed Master of Theology at the university despite again being younger than the official age. He spent his time preaching, lecturing and presiding over various debates. There was something of a cultural and spiritual renewal happening in the church as a whole: the old feudal system was passing away at the same time as the old theology of contempt for the world was changing towards aiming to control the forces of nature through the application of reason.

The Dominicans rotated their scholars, so in 1259 Thomas was sent back to Italy, where he became theological advisor and lecturer to the papal *Curia*. He spent the next ten years in various study houses in Umbria and Rome. He continued to preach and teach and began writing his *summa contra gentiles* and *summa theologiae*, of which the *summa theologiae* is most enduring and still studied to this day.

In 1259 Thomas returned to Paris for an unusual second term as Master of Theology. He tried to bring agreement between scholars and bring them away from polarised positions. However, Thomas spent most of his time working on his major writings. The *summa theologiae*, for example, ran to 60 volumes by the end. Thomas also worked on commentaries for Aristotle's major works. In 1272 he returned to Naples where he nearly finished his writing, but he gave up after a year and a half. He died soon after, in the Cistercian Abbey of Fossanova, in 1274.

Thomas Aquinas' ideas were and are controversial, but he remains a significant figure in the development of Christian thought.

Thomas Aquinas

From the Holy Trinity Memorial Book

- 2 Alice Baron died 1992 aged 79 years. 'Loving memories of a dear friend.'
 - **Edward Robinson** Loving Husband, Dad, Grandpa and Cousin died 1992 aged 77 years. 'In Heavenly Love Abiding.'
- 6 **Samuel Mellor Schofield** died 1982. 'Loved and remembered every day.'
 - **Donald Joseph Harris** died this day 1989 aged 61. 'A Dearly Loved Husband, Dad and Grandad.'
 - Martin Connell, died this day 2012 aged 62. Always remembered.
- 9 Harry Widdall, DSM RN, donor of this book, died 1989, aged 77. He served with distinction on H.M. 'U' Boat Graph during World War Two.
 - **Alan John Clegg** died this day 1984. 'Remembered always. Love you for ever. Mum and Dad.'
 - **Vera Cunnington** née Pemberton, died 1994 aged 74 years. Beloved Wife of Stanley, Mother of Averil and John.
- 11 Allen Smith died this day 1990. 'Memories of you will never die.'
 Eunice Kirkpatrick beloved wife of the late Frank, died this day 1997, aged 79. Loved and remembered always.
- Doris Lees died this day 1990. Simple words but very true. We will always love and remember you.
- 19 **Sarah Lizzie Dunkerley (Sally)** Died 1996.Remembered with affection. 'O Lord, in Thee I have trusted. Let me never be confounded.'
- 22 **Bill Stott** died this day 2000. Lovingly remembered by Eileen and family.
- 23 Joseph Connell died this day 1983 aged 63years. 'Always remembered.'
- 26 **Frank Wadsworth** born this day 1934. Birthday memories. Gone but not forgotten.
- 27 **Lisa Kershaw** died this day 1999 aged 16. An angel too beautiful for this earth.
- 28 Harold Andrew Prendergast died this day 2005.
 Treasured memories and a loving grandad of Lisa together again.

"To one who has faith, no explanation is necessary.

To one without faith, no explanation is possible."

Thomas Aquinas

ZIG

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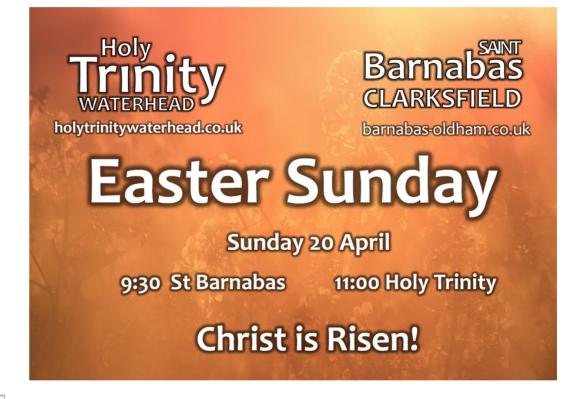
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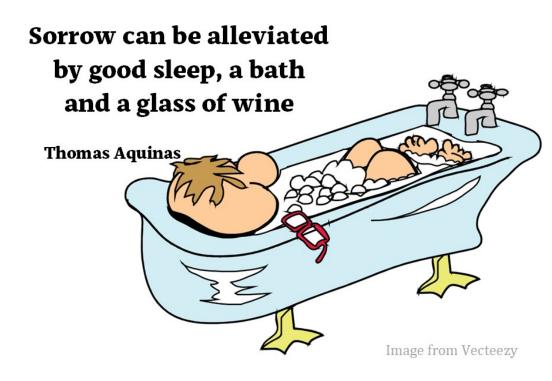


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