

WHAT DOES THE MESSAGE OF EASTER MEAN TO US

For the past few days I spent time in the garden, planting a new hedge, mowing the lawn and making things tidy, but I am longing to get stuck into the raised beds growing the vegetables. As we look around us we have enjoyed the crocus and snowdrops, and now we have the daffodils and later on will have the tulips. There is the blossom on the trees, the perennial plants are all shooting through as are the buds on the trees and hedges. It has certainly been a good spring and now we have the summer to look forward too. By the time you receive this newsletter the clocks will have been altered. We can put behind us the cold and wet of the winter and look forward to the lighter evenings, at the same time enjoy all the new life around us. For Christians there is, too the celebration of Easter during April, with many services taking place in the Town's churches.

Jesus said on one occasion "if I had not come.." how different our lives and prospects would have been without Him coming amongst us. With the events of Maunday Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Day God showed us His way for each one of us. When the enemies of Jesus had Him Crucified, they were convinced that they had won. Jesus died, as He said that He would, and by His death paid the ransom to set us free from the grip of sin. Then on Easter Day, He Rose from the grave. The Angels said to the women who came to the tomb on Easter morning "He is not here, He has risen, He is alive" and that is why we celebrate Easter.

The living Lord Jesus promised that He would always be with those who respond to His invitation to come to Him. The power that raised Him from the grave is given to us to live for Him, conquerer of sin and death. If you are not connected to any other church, let me invite you to share with us over this Easter time. To think with us on that love of Jesus that took Him so cruelly to the Cross of Calvary and to rejoice with us in that certainty that He is alive.

Low in the grave He lay, Jesus my Saviour, waiting the coming day, Jesus my Lord. Up from the grave He arose, with a mighty triumph o'er His grave.

Gordon