

NORTH WESTMORLAND WEEKLY

Sunday 4th May – Third Sunday of Easter

Year C: Easter

Sunday's readings

Acts 9:1-6

Psalms 30

Revelation 5:11-end

John 21:1-19

White

Collect

Almighty Father, who in your great mercy gladdened the disciples with the sight of the risen Lord: give us such knowledge of his presence with us, that we may be strengthened and sustained by his risen life and serve you continually in righteousness and truth; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Post Communion Prayer

Living God, your Son made himself known to his disciples in the breaking of bread: open the eyes of our faith, that we may see him in all his redeeming work; who is alive and reigns, now and for ever.



New birth – a date for your diaries


Ask children about the symbolism of Easter and they will often focus upon birth and new life – those components of the story represented by the edible and the cute: the Easter Egg and the chick. But they are not wrong: Easter is epitome of Isaiah's message that God is always "doing a new thing: now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?"

Paul calls the Body of Christ to renew its mind (Romans 12:2) and to put off the old self and put on a new self, more closely aligned to the image of God (Ephesians 4:22-24).

As part of our series of Saturday morning workshops, we will hold a forum next month on the renewal of our benefice. This time we will be at **Askham Village Hall, Saturday 17th May, 9am.** Continental breakfast for those who would like it, from 8.30am.

We will explore together the challenges which face us, what our special mission might be, and the ways in which, as a group of PCCs and churches, we might be more effective.

This will be a collaborative session with some input from ministers but plenty of time for sharing stories, discussion and an opportunity to have your say. And rest assured, it won't be the last chance to engage with these issues! Nevertheless, the discussion is of fundamental and urgent importance, so please join us if you can.

 By way of preparation, some questions to think about this week:
What is missing from my church, or from the benefice?
Perhaps something that I found helpful in a previous church?



Email your answers to Stephen, bring or send thoughts on 17th May.

Myanmar Earthquake

Rita Emerson in Askham invites you to contribute to the fundraising effort which her grandson Richard is organising as a result of having been in Myanmar in late March, experiencing at first hand the destruction wrought by the earthquake. Working with their local tour guide, he has been fundraising for rural areas, where the aid from international organisations has been slow to arrive. You can visit his GoFundMe page, where there is more information:
<https://gofund.me/a6e0bd22>



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Acts 9:1-6

Meanwhile Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest ² and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any who belonged to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. ³ Now as he was going along and approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. ⁴ He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, 'Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?' ⁵ He asked, 'Who are you, Lord?' The reply came, 'I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. ⁶ But get up and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do.'

Revelation 5:11-end

¹¹ Then I looked, and I heard the voice of many angels surrounding the throne and the living creatures and the elders; they numbered myriads of myriads and thousands of thousands, ¹² singing with full voice,

'Worthy is the Lamb that was slaughtered to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honour and glory and blessing!'

¹³ Then I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea, and all that is in them, singing,

'To the one seated on the throne and to the Lamb be blessing and honour and glory and might for ever and ever!'

¹⁴ And the four living creatures said, 'Amen!' And the elders fell down and worshipped.

John 21:1-19

After these things Jesus showed himself again to the disciples by the Sea of Tiberias; and he showed himself in this way. ² Gathered there together were Simon Peter, Thomas called the Twin, Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of his disciples. ³ Simon Peter said to them, 'I am going fishing.' They said to him, 'We will go with you.' They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing.

⁴ Just after daybreak, Jesus stood on the beach; but the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. ⁵ Jesus said to them, 'Children, you have no fish, have you?' They answered him, 'No.' ⁶ He said to them, 'Cast

the net to the right side of the boat, and you will find some.' So they cast it, and now they were not able to haul it in because there were so many fish. ⁷ That disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, 'It is the Lord!' When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on some clothes, for he was naked, and jumped into the lake. ⁸ But the other disciples came in the boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they were not far from the land, only about a hundred yards off.

⁹ When they had gone ashore, they saw a charcoal fire there, with fish on it, and bread. ¹⁰ Jesus said to them, 'Bring some of the fish that you have just caught.' ¹¹ So Simon Peter went aboard and hauled the net ashore, full of large fish, a hundred and fifty-three of them; and though there were so many, the net was not torn. ¹² Jesus said to them, 'Come and have breakfast.' Now none of the disciples dared to ask him, 'Who are you?' because they knew it was the Lord. ¹³ Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them, and did the same with the fish. ¹⁴ This was now the third time that Jesus appeared to the disciples after he was raised from the dead.

¹⁵ When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, 'Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?' He said to him, 'Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.' Jesus said to him, 'Feed my lambs.' ¹⁶ A second time he said to him, 'Simon son of John, do you love me?' He said to him, 'Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.' Jesus said to him, 'Tend my sheep.' ¹⁷ He said to him the third time, 'Simon son of John, do you love me?' Peter felt hurt because he said to him the third time, 'Do you love me?' And he said to him, 'Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you.' Jesus said to him, 'Feed my sheep. ¹⁸ Very truly, I tell you, when you were younger, you used to fasten your own belt and to go wherever you wished. But when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will fasten a belt around you and take you where you do not wish to go.' ¹⁹ (He said this to indicate the kind of death by which he would glorify God.) After this he said to him, 'Follow me.'