



St Andrew's Westlands

LINK

April/May 2025

www.churchinthewestlands.org.uk

Vicar: Andrew Dawswell 01782 619594



Welcoming the whole community



Discovering God's love



Following Jesus' teaching

tearfund

Following Jesus where the need is greatest

Open Café



Plants

Books

Toys & Games

Cakes

Car wash

Chocolate lucky dip



Sat May 17th 10.30am - 12noon

In church building and grounds

Admission £1, children free. All proceeds go to support Tearfund's relief and development work in the poorest parts of the world

Regular events

Currently all meeting in St Andrew's parish room, directly accessible from the church's rear car park

Little Sparklers for 0-3's and their parents or carers, with Bible stories, toys and a chance to chat. From 10-11am on Tuesday mornings in school term time ie till 8th April, re-starts 29th

Messy church for Children and Parents together in St Andrew's Parish Room
On Good Friday 9.45-11.15am
Saturdays 10th May & 7th June 2.30-4.00pm

Xcite for Yrs 5,6 & 7 Wii games, table football, snacks, discussions about life and faith, cooking and crafts. Term-time Mondays 4-5pm in the parish room . For more info. contact 01782 625924 or mrchrisgill2@gmail.com

Renew Westlands Café... Every Wednesday drop in anytime between 1.30-4.00. Especially for any who are: a bit lonely and want a chat; or anxious but would value a safe place. Including a cuppa and the option of crafts, jigsaw, games etc.

Afternoon tea ...3.00pm in St Andrew's Hall on Tuesdays 15th April, 13th May & 10th June. £4 book by contacting Glenys on 01782 625924 mrsghenysgill@gmail.com Special diets can be catered for if notice given.

Craft and Chat... 2-3.30pm on 7th April, 12th May & 2nd June . Details - Margaret on 01782 612009.

Forget me not Café... For all who are bereaved, a chance to meet with others in a similar position. Generally on 3rd Fridays between 10.30-12noon (11th April, 16th May, 20th

Easter Message

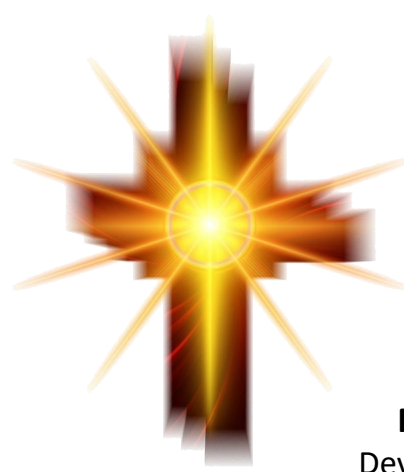
Part of the attraction of Easter to some may well be that it all ends 'happily ever after'. Despite the shame of Jesus' crucifixion, he is gloriously vindicated by the resurrection. But of course just because a story has got a happy ending doesn't make it any more likely to be true; and many would view Christians who believe it to have actually happened as being extremely naïve.

There isn't space for a full defence here. But first of all I'd say that if the world just made itself—then miracles are of course completely impossible. On the other hand, if our world really was made by God, then his intervention becomes a possibility. Each miraculous claim must then be judged on its own merits.

In the case of Jesus' resurrection, the first step to deciding if it actually happened must be to read the narratives at the end of each of the gospels. But perhaps the strongest evidence lies in the impact that Jesus continued to make, long after his death on the cross. The authorities had every reason to expect that executing him would quash the movement that Jesus had begun. But something astonishing must have happened to have enabled his disciples not only re-launch, but for the church that Jesus founded to become in time the largest movement the world has ever known.

Sadly churches locally, nationally and internationally are far from perfect. But nonetheless the continuing global growth of this Jesus movement, 2000 years later is I believe powerful evidence of the truth of the claims made by his first disciples, that Jesus had indeed risen from the dead.

Andrew Dawswell



Easter & Holy Week Services

Mon - Thurs 7.30pm
Devotional services, with
Communion on Maundy Thursday

Good Friday (April 18th)

- 9.45 am** Messy Church in the Hall
- 10.00 am** Good Friday Service
- 12.00pm** Churches together service by Guildhall
- 2.00pm** Devotional Service

Easter Sunday (April 20th)

- 5.40am** 'Sonrise' open air service
(above Wye Road Community Centre)

Followed by celebration services at the usual Sunday times of:

8.30am, 10.45am & 6.30pm

At 10.45 there are usually also a Sunday Club groups for 3-15's in the hall - although Easter Sunday is one of the special weeks when instead our main 10.45 service is designed to be suitable for all ages (the others coming up are 18th May & 8th June).

Jigsaw Festival and Children's Painting Competition

To mark the expected completion of our new hall these two events will be held in July (on a Saturday from 10.30 am to 3 pm) Refreshments will be available, and there will be a chance to see the new premises.

There will be 3 age groups for the painting competition: ages 3 - 7 years; ages 8 - 11 years; ages 12 - 16 years. Flyers, posters, website and Facebook information with the details of topics, entry date, etc will be released after Easter. All pictures will be displayed in church or the new hall, and there will be 1st, 2nd and 3rd prizes in each group. .

Jigsaws will also be displayed in the church and hall, and will be available to purchase. More details will be posted on our website and social media in due course



Any who might be interested in using the new hall, whether for a local community group or for a class run as small business, is invited to express a preliminary interest to: Mrchrisgill2@gmail.com 01782 625924.

The main hall will be 152 sqm (14.2 x 10.7 m) with a generous sized kitchen and a little storage is available too.