



31st March, 2024

Free Bacon Butties 9:00-9:45am | All-Age Worship at 10:00am
Holy Communion or Easter Egg Hunt & Bouncy Castle Afterwards
All Hallows Church, 222 Councillor Lane, Cheadle, SK8 2JG

Light Obliterates Darkness

People and communities often find themselves going through difficult moments. That could be a political party dealing with the latest scandal, a school trying to balance a budget, a student trying to get their coursework done before a deadline, a parent trying to get the whole household to somehow work, a charity wondering how it can possibly meet the needs of all its clients and so on. So often in those moments we find ourselves looking for 'the light at the end of the tunnel'.

As a church we have been going through a bit of a time like that recently, and continue to do so. People we know and love who are struggling with terrible illnesses, and so many of them. Families we know (even some of our own) struggling to pay bills like so many others in our society. Then there are the bereavements that have come upon our church. Yet, even after these losses there is still so much need and suffering that many in our church family are enduring and that we face together. So, where is the light at the end of the tunnel?

Jesus said, "I am the light of the world." Jesus shines light into dark places. That's not just hopeful thinking, like when people say, "It will all be OK" even though they don't have a shred of evidence that it will be. When Jesus says, "I am the light of the world," he says it because it is absolutely true.

It is Jesus who shines light into the dark areas of our lives in order to help us to live better. It is Jesus who shines light into our hearts and prompts us to give money or time to a charity. It is Jesus who shines light into our minds that causes us to think of ways that we can help those in need (and do things better at home).

And it is Jesus who overcame death. If death is a great darkness, then the light of Jesus shines on it and changes everything. The light of Jesus obliterates the darkness of death. That's what we remember at Easter. That Jesus is alive, and so when we follow him we will be resurrected too. That because Jesus conquered death we will do too one day, and what a glorious day that will be.

Happy Easter!

Paul

IN THIS ISSUE

6 Free Easter Activities for Children

This month's article from Christians Against Poverty (Page 2)

The Green Zone

This month's top tip of something we can do better to look after the environment. (Page 2)

What's On

What's on in March? Look here to find it all out. (Page 3)

New or Visiting

The back page has some pieces of information about our church and services that you might find helpful (Page 4)

6 Free Easter Activities for Children

christians
against
poverty

CAP

If you're searching for ways to keep the kids occupied over the Easter holidays and keen to keep costs down, take a look at our five free (or cheap) suggestions. Please share any other ideas with us on social media – just search Christians Against Poverty UK.

A world of stories

Visit your local library and see what events they have going on over the Easter holidays. You might want to challenge the kids to dress up as their favourite story character too – a perfect opportunity to prepare for World Book Day on 7 March (or get a second use out of the costume!)

Hunt Zog

From Forestry England, Zog trails can be found in locations across the UK – a fun and inexpensive day out with a ready-made activity pack and lots of photo opportunities. Find your nearest trail at forestryengland.uk/zog.

Perfect pebbles

Go for a walk with the kids and collect a selection of pebbles (ideally ones that are big enough to paint or draw on). Design and paint them when you get home, then use them for an Easter egg-style hunt, or to create a beautiful display.

Fun at church

Many churches organise fun activities and events for children around Easter. Many also run regular mums and tots groups, kids clubs and youth groups all year round. Events and activities taking place at All Hallows are in this magazine.

Scavenger hunt

Get out and about, perhaps at a park or lake near you, and challenge the kids to spot everything on the list below. Feel free to add more!

- A ladybird, a caterpillar, a butterfly, a woodlouse, a bird, a person wearing a hat, a person wearing something of a certain colour, a person wearing trainers, a small dog, a big dog, an ice cream van, a funny-shaped leaf, a funny-shaped pebble, a purple petal (don't pick any, just point), a daisy, a daffodil, a curvy twig, a brown leaf, a signpost, something to sit on

Indoor picnic

Rainy day? Put up a tent in the living room, or create a den with blankets and cushions, and have your own indoor picnic. This is also a great opportunity to teach children about budgeting: give them a certain amount of money (e.g. £5) and challenge them to buy all the picnic items you need without going over budget.

Christians Against Poverty (CAP) is a UK charity working with over 800 affiliated churches to deliver debt help, budgeting guidance, support to find work, life skills education and more. Visit capuk.org to find out more.

The Green Zone



Each month we highlight a practical thing that we can all do to look after the wider environment—'Creation Care' as somebody has called it.

Last month we highlighted the estimate that there is between 1-2 million tonnes of plastic rubbish that ends up in the world's oceans every year. The impact of that plastic causes damage to ocean life, ecosystems and even our own health (as we then eat some of the fish that have eaten micro-plastics) So, reducing plastic a lot is an easy thing we can do for the environment and so beneficial.

So, this month's top tip is to don't use plastic straws.

What's On?

Mothering Sunday Service

An all-age service for everybody in the family

With flowers for the mums



10am, 10th March

MARCH 2024

Sunday 3rd
10:00 Morning Service
6:30 Evening Communion Service

Monday 4th
10:00 Zoom Prayers

Wednesday 6th
9:00-1:30 The Light Café
10:00-11:30 Messy Toddlers
1:00-1:15 Pause for Thought
7:00-8:30 Youth Club

Sunday 10th
10:00 Mothering Sunday Family Service
6:30 Evening Service

Monday 11th
10:00 Zoom Prayers

Tuesday 12th to Friday 22nd
Easter Story Trail

Sunday 17th
10:00 Communion Service and Sunday School
6:30 Evening Service

Monday 18th
10:00 Zoom Prayers
7:30 PCC (In Church)

Sunday 24th—Palm Sunday
10:00 Service and Sunday School
6:30 Evening Service

Monday 26th
10:00 Zoom Prayers

Wednesday 27th
9:00-1:30 Light Café
1:00-1:30 BCP Holy Communion
7:00-8:30 Youth Club

Thursday 28th
7:30 Maundy Thursday Service

Friday 29th
10:00 Good Friday Service

Sunday 31st—Easter Sunday
10:00 Easter Sunday Family Service (+ Communion & Egg Hunt)
6:30 Evening Service

As well as these events, Life Groups meet during the week—to join one of these small groups, speak to Paul C or Barbara.



The **Easter Story Trail** is at All Hallows in March. We will be welcoming children and staff from local primary schools and there is opportunity for others to look around the trail too.

The trails for the wider public are 9:30 and 10:45 on Wednesday mornings (13th and 20th), during the Light Café. Also 6:30 and 8:00 in the evenings of Thursday 14th, Wednesday 20th and Thursday 21st. *If you would like to come to one of the Story Trails then please call the parish office to book a place.*



Easter at All Hallows

Maundy Thursday (28th March)
7:30pm Communion Service

Good Friday (29th March)
10:00am A Reflective Service

Easter Sunday (31st March)
9:00-9:45am *Free bacon butties, leading into...*
10:00am **All Age Easter Celebration**
followed by Holy Communion or an Easter Egg Hunt and Bouncy Castle for children
6:30pm Evening Service



New or Visiting?

First Time Here?

If it's your first time here then welcome! It's great to have you with us. Here are a few short notes that you might find helpful.

Relax - You're our guest, so make yourself at home. If there is anything that you would like to know then ask one of the Welcome Team by the front door.

We don't expect guests to give - For those who are members or regular attenders there is an offering plate at the back, but we don't ask our guests for any money.

We have a Loop System - Switch your hearing aid to T-coil. You might find it useful to sit towards the middle.

Hang around afterwards - Come and join us for a cup of tea or fresh coffee, and for a chat—drinks are served in the hall and we usually gather in the lounge to chat.

Prayer - If you would like someone to pray with you — either prayer for you or for someone you know — there are people who would love to do so after the service. Please make yourself known to the service leader.

Children & Youth - Once a month, the whole church worships together. On other weeks, there is a Sunday School for primary aged children and a group for high-school age young people. One of the Welcome Team can show you where these groups meet. For pre-school age children, there are green tables at the side of church with activities. Please don't be embarrassed if your children make any noise—they are welcome here and are part of the service, too! All our children and youth leaders have DBS checks and have undergone safeguarding training.

Next Steps

We are all on a journey through life, and our faith is no different. Depending upon where you are on your journey with God here are some 'Next Steps' you could take:

COMMIT YOUR LIFE TO CHRIST

Commit to follow Jesus today!

RE-COMMIT TO CHRIST

It's never too late for a fresh start with faith.

DECLARE YOUR FAITH THROUGH BAPTISM

If you feel you've made a commitment to God but have never been baptised, then this could be a great step for you.

JOIN A LIFE GROUP

If you're not in one, there are a number of groups that meet in homes throughout the week to get to know each other better, look at the Bible and pray together.

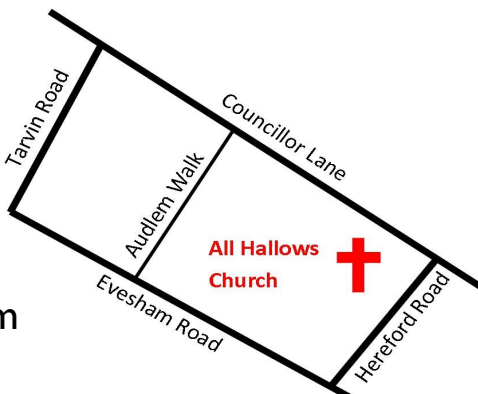
BE PART OF THE MISSION

There are lots of ways you can use your gifts to serve God, his Church and the wider community. Speak to one of the church team to find out more.

Contact Details

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222 Councillor Lane
Cheadle, SK8 2JG

0161 428 9121
allhallows.cheadle@gmail.com
allhallows-church.org.uk



If you would like to make a one-off donation to the work of All Hallows Church you can do so by using the QR Code above.