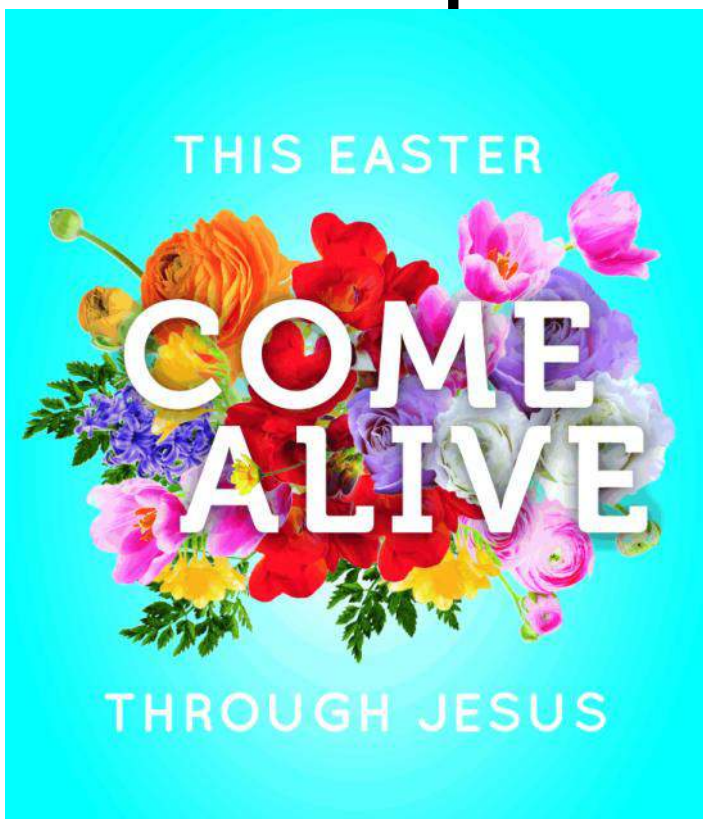


# **St.Thomas' and St. Luke's Ashton-In-Makerfield Church Magazine**

**Price : 50p**



April 2017

[www.stthomasstluke.org.uk](http://www.stthomasstluke.org.uk)

# Church Services in the Parish of St Thomas, Ashton-in-Makerfield

## Sundays

St Thomas's		St Luke's
9.00a.m.	Holy Communion	11.00 a.m. Family Worship (2nd Sunday Family Communion)
10.45 am	Family Worship (1st Sunday Parade & 4th Sunday Family Communion)	
6.30 p.m.	Evening Worship (3rd and 5th Sunday Holy Communion)	

## Weekdays

Thursday 9.45 a.m.	Holy Communion (BCP 1662)	Other services and Saints' Days as announced. Please see weekly notice sheet or visit website for dates, details or exceptions.
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**Deadlines:** Handwritten material should be given to Malcolm Taylor, and email material to [stthomasandstlukemagazine@gmail.com](mailto:stthomasandstlukemagazine@gmail.com)

Deadline	May 2017	June 2017
Hand Written	9th April	7th May
Computer	16th April	14th May
Magazine Release	30th April	28th May

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### Booking Baptisms and Weddings

Vestry Hour will be from 6.30pm to 7.30pm on Thursdays 6th and 20th April when baptisms and weddings can be booked as usual. However, we are now encouraging everyone who would like to book a baptism or wedding to come to the family service at either St Thomas (10.45am) or St Luke's (11am) and bookings will be taken afterwards. There will be no Vestry Hour from May.

## Important Parish Information

### Baptisms

Baptisms are held at St Thomas Church at 12.45 on the 2nd & 4th Sundays. Baptisms at St Luke's are at 11 am on the 3rd Sunday.

To qualify for baptism parents should live within the parish boundaries or be a regular worshipper at St Thomas's/St Luke's. Parents and Godparents should also be prepared to undertake baptism preparation classes.

### Marriage

You can marry in a C of E church of your choice if certain criteria are shown to be met. For details please contact the vicar. **(Please see note in Parish News).**

### Funerals

Every parishioner has the right to a service in church, followed by a committal.

# Bishop Paul's Easter Letter

## *Unity and our resurrection hope*

People of a certain age like me may remember a simple hymn that went like this:



We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord,  
We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord,  
And we pray that our unity may one day be restored  
And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love,  
Yes they'll know we are Christians by our love.

A key thing that preoccupies any diocesan bishop is how we can sustain unity in our Church. I don't confess this to be anything new. Throughout the long history of the church we have held different, deep, sincere, prayerful and well-thought-through theological positions on a whole range of matters. But disagreement can feel sharper today, as our social networks and scandal-hungry media lay bare these divisions in an aggressive manner. So we need, for our mutual flourishing, to continue to seek out places of unity and commonality.



The Easter story, the Easter message gives us something to unify around. The story of hope triumphing from the jaws of despair and defeat. It is the powerful testimony at the heart of our Christian witness, the fulfilment of the promise that God has sent his Son to save the world. This is what lies at the heart of the difference we can make as Christians. It is a basic truth and hope that the world is crying out for. It is the hope we can offer.

And it is the story we want people to know because it points to the Jesus we want them to know. This story of hope is too precious to keep to ourselves, we need to share it, shout it, broadcast it to the

world. That Jesus is alive, that He saves us, that he wants to know us and for us to know him.

I believe we can shout that loudest by re-pledging our commitment to Him. To make a deeper commitment to be a disciple of Christ, a follower who not only keeps the story to themselves but through their love, their actions, their quest for justice they show the world what it is like to have the transformational presence of Jesus in their lives. For the church, Easter can be a time of commitment and recommitment.

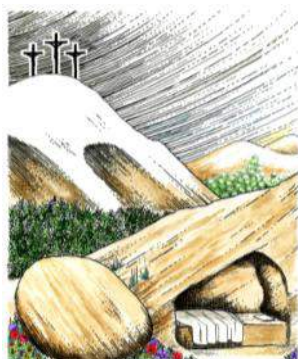
At our Chrism Eucharist as many as possible across our diocese gather to reaffirm our baptism vows, and those who are ordained renew the promises of their ordination. In so many churches in our diocese and across the Communion we see faithful people rededicating themselves as Christ's disciples at this time.

Alongside my senior colleagues, I am reflecting and praying on how we can encourage a culture of discipleship, a rule of life in our diocese. This will be something that unites us as difference-making disciples seeking to have more people knowing Jesus, more justice in the world. It is a theme I examined in my Lent Lectures at the cathedral and in my recent speech to our Diocesan Synod. I encouraged us to look afresh at that great focus of unity for the church, which we know as the Lord's Prayer and I have been calling the Disciples' Prayer.

So as we celebrate Easter this year let me encourage you, this day and every day, to join with fellow disciples in prayer. Together with them, together with all disciples in this Diocese of Liverpool and in this worldwide Church, as our risen Saviour taught us, we are bold to say again: "Our Father..." THEN they'll know we are Christians by our love.

**May you have a joyous and blessed Easter.**

**Paul Bayes**  
**Bishop of Liverpool**





# Letter from the Vicar

In Bishop Paul's Easter message, he reflects on our unity as disciples who are called to make a difference in the name of Jesus - loving and serving communities that are crying out for the precious hope we already hold in our hearts. Jesus calls us to share this hope boldly and generously. Jesus calls us to 'go'.

Wigan Deanery's vision, Transforming Wigan, is that 10% of people will be on a discipleship journey with Jesus by 2023. In a transformed deanery 20,000 people will be somewhere on a journey with Jesus. Here in Ashton we could conceivably look at the population of our unique part of the deanery and work out how many that will be in our town. It's quite a number of disciples.

A good question that we may ask is, 'how will we know?' The temptation (and maybe expectation) is to think that all of these new disciples will be turning up to existing Sunday services in church buildings. In reality the new disciples will be mainly gathered in new worship communities, probably on different days of the week and in places we may not immediately associate with 'church'.

And the way we will know who is on a discipleship journey with Jesus is that rather than a clicker counting numbers on a Sunday, the answer will be in stories and in testimony of transformed lives. Transformed lives in turn will inspire and lead transformation in community.

The starting point for the 20,000 is the witness of you and I who already know the wonder of the good news of Easter and the promise that it holds. It is far simpler than we think.

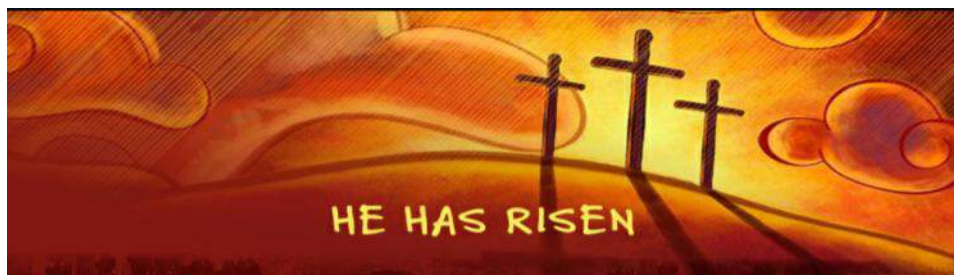


# Letter from the Vicar

**Prayer** is a good place to start, praying for specific people, praying for communities and opportunities. **Share** is a helpful next step, the name of Jesus on our lips, our testimony of his difference to our own lives. Being **there** is key, loving time given, encouraging, challenging and serving.

Resurrection Easter hope is not mine to keep, it is mine to give. When the hope of Jesus is known in the most difficult and the most ordinary of lives then the discipleship journeys will have begun. Transformational stories will abound and 20,000 people may be a serious underestimate.

**Jeremy Thomas**



## Verse for the Year

***'Let us think of ways to motivate one another to acts of love and good works. And let us not neglect our meeting together'***

***Hebrews 24-25a (NLT)***





## **Daily / Weekly Events in our Church - April 2017**

<b><u>Tuesday</u></b>	Coffee Morning. (Church Hall)	10:00am- 12:00pm
	Church open for prayer.	7.30-8.30pm
<b><u>Wednesday</u></b>	Morning Prayer.	9.00am
<b><u>Thursday</u></b>	Holy Communion.	9:45am
	Vestry hour.	6.30-7.30pm

*These are the usual events in our church, please see the notices for details of other activities taking place. For details of organisations and who to contact see back page of magazine.*

**Streets for Prayer:** This month we are praying for the people who live and work in **Morden Avenue, Wigan Road (from Library to Alexandra Road), Ashton View Nursing Home, Queens Road Clinic.**

### **TANGO**

**TANGO at St. Marks Church, Haydock support and resource families within the Haydock/Ashton area by providing food; clothing; furniture and household items.**



**If you have any items of furniture that you no longer want TANGO will collect Free Of Charge from your home.**

**If you want more information about TANGO or to arrange a collection please ring: 01744 607388**







# Parish News



## **Mencap Society Spring Fair**



Lowton, Golborne and Ashton Mencap Society Spring Fair will be held on Saturday 13th May in St Thomas' Church Hall starting at 10.30am. The entry is 20p. There will be a tombola stall, raffle, toy stall, book stall, plants, cafe, bric-a-brac stall and cake stall.

## **Lesley Hobson**

### **Christian Aid Week**



Christian Aid Week this year is between 14th and 20th May. Last year Maureen Cook, Hilda Bramwell and Phil Hayton built on their previous experiences as organisers. We are tremendously grateful that they have agreed to continue this valuable work in our Parish. I must stress once more our continued dependence on your help this has not changed, as always many volunteers are needed to deliver and collect envelopes during the week and to assist in the count at a time to be agreed. I do hope and pray that we can rely on your response.

## **Malcolm**

### **Thank You**

Mr and Mrs Ian Prescott would like to express our thanks to members of both St Thomas's and St Lukes congregations for their kind words of condolence and donations in memory of Hannah Prescott.



# Mothers Union

## DIARY

**Wednesday 19 April** Church Hall 7.30pm the Speaker is Brenda Seddon who is the Chairman of the Deanery Synod and will talk about her involvement in this role.

I have received a letter of thanks from Karen and Alec Parkinson for providing the refreshments at the funeral of Karen's mum Marion Bullen. The donation which they made to the work of the MU is much appreciated.

Thank you for everyone who helped in any way at our Brunch. We had a very successful day raising the magnificent sum of £616.00 which will go to MU projects overseas and in this country. We couldn't manage without those providing cakes, tombola or raffle prizes, everyone who provided soup etc and everyone who helped on the day in the kitchen, on the stalls and who waited on and of course all our patrons who helped make it a wonderful day with great fellowship and the friendship and a real buzz in the hall.



I was so sorry to hear that Hannah Prescott had died on the 24 February. Hannah was our oldest member at 102 years of age, She was a lovely person and enjoyed coming to our Summer Evening in June always accompanied by Joyce Doran who did much to care for her. We pass on our sincere sympathy to her family at this difficult time.

I was pleased to see so many at our Annual General Meeting which was chaired by our Vicar Jeremy and when I and our Treasurer Pauline Wharton and our new Secretary Pat Hamilton were able to make our reports on the past year in the life of the branch and the theme for the future. I am particularly delighted that Pat has agreed to take on the role of Branch Secretary and I do wish her well.

# Mothers Union

## **Easter**

Today love and resurrection  
have become the perfect whole.  
The tomb is empty,  
Christ has risen glorious from the dead.  
Lord, help me to cherish the revelation  
of your new beginning.  
Today love and resurrection  
have made me whole.  
Alleluia Christ is risen,  
on this Easter morn may we rise with him,  
and praise him with all our hearts;  
cast aside our cares, and lean on his abundant love.



**Amen**  
**Jan Seaman**

*Love and God bless*

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## St. Thomas' C of E Primary School

### Eight Births at St Thomas's School

To support our Year 1 science lessons about humans and animals, we decided to study the life cycle of chicks. We received nine eggs, an incubator, and a brooder box. We set up the equipment as a class, and put the nine eggs into the incubator. After just a few days, we began to see small cracks appear on the shells.



On the sixth day, the chicks hatched. To say there was excitement and amazement from all the children would be an understatement. The chicks were transferred into a warm brooder box which contained food and water. The chicks really flourished and all became chirping yellow fluff balls! The Y1 pupils gave all the chicks a name and filled in a '*My Chick Diary*' daily to record information. Everyone at St Thomas's School was invited to visit Y1 class to observe the chicks and ask any questions.

All the children really enjoyed this new learning experience, and it was a wonderful way to learn about **new life**.

## **Student Prayer of the month**

Thank you, Jesus, for the chicks and new life. Please keep all animals safe.

Bless everyone in our school and at St Thomas' / St Luke's church.

**Amen**

**Zahra Karikari Year 1**

## **Bible Verse: John 3:16**

For God loved the world so much that he gave his only son, so that everyone who believes in him may not die but have eternal life.

**Easter blessings to you all,  
Elaine Mateus**





**Wigan and Leigh Carers Centre  
looking for  
Volunteer Befrienders & Buddy's**



A carer is a person of any age, who looks after a family member, relative, partner, neighbour or friend who needs help due to ill health, old age, disability, drug or alcohol misuse or who has mental health problems. You do not have to live with the person or the only one doing the caring.

Wigan and Leigh Carers Centre (WLCC), based in Fredrick Street, Hindley look to support carers in a number of ways from support and advice to training and social groups. Carers can often feel isolated, low in confidence and in need of a listening ear.

WLCC Befriending & Buddying scheme offers a way to help combat isolation for carers by offering them support, encouragement and a listening ear. This is offered by Volunteer Befrienders & Buddy's who take time to support a carer on a one to one – going for a coffee, a walk, offering companionship and a listening ear, introducing them to activities, meeting in their home to chat or enabling them to take some much needed time for themselves.

We are looking for new Volunteer Befrienders to offer support to carers. If you have a couple of hours a week, are a good listener and have empathy with what carers may face, why not try volunteering with Wigan and Leigh Carers Centre?

Catherine Ellis, Volunteer & Befriending Scheme Co-ordinator says “befriending a carer who feels isolated or in need of a listening ear is very rewarding and makes a massive difference to local people”

To find out more or to gain support as a carer please contact [catherine@wiganandleighcarerscentre.org.uk](mailto:catherine@wiganandleighcarerscentre.org.uk) or phone 01942 705959.



## Archbishop urges Britain to ‘seize and define the future’

In the Presidential speech at the February General Synod, the Archbishop of Canterbury argued that the current political and social climate is an opportunity for re-imagining the nation’s practices, values, aspirations and global role.

The Archbishop said “this could be a time of liberation, of seizing and defining the future, or it could be one in which the present problems seize our national future and define us.”

The Archbishop went on to argue that the Church of England can be a part of the answer: “we have a voice and a contribution and a capacity and a reach and above all a Lord who is faithful when we fail and faithful when we flourish.

“How are we going to contribute to the national future? There is before the churches of this land, over the next many years, an extraordinary opportunity to be part of reimagining a new Britain, its practices, values, aspirations and global role. To do so we must ourselves be cross shaped, Jesus following, confident in faith and humble in service, above all outward looking.



“We are called to be the people of the cross ... seeing and loving the world around as Christ does, so that in this time of a choice between national hope and opportunity or threat and fear we may play the part to which we are called in reimagining our country and seizing the best future that lies before us.”



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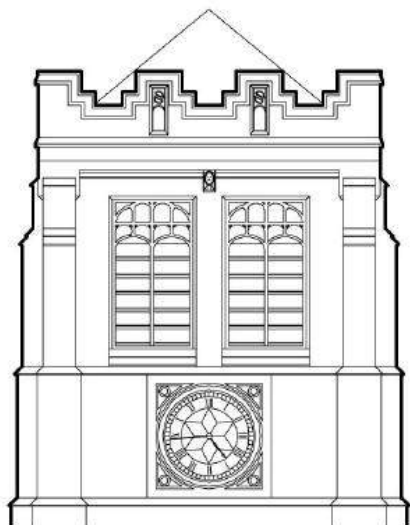
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EMAIL: [graham.bailey15@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:graham.bailey15@yahoo.co.uk)**

**Directors: G Bailey, C Bailey and L Bailey  
VAT Number 768/1716/00 Company Reg No. 4172616**



# St Thomas' Donations

## April 2017



Please place your donation in an envelope with your full name and amount written on it. Please hand in at church or post to the vicarage. Please make any cheques payable to **St Thomas' PCC**. If you want the donation to be for something specific, please write clearly on the envelope.

Thank you.

### GIFT AID

If you are a UK tax payer and would like church to be able to claim back 25p for every £1 you donate, please complete a Gift Aid form or state on your envelope that you are a UK tax payer, would like the donation to be Gift Aided and include your full name and address.

### **With Thanks for Home Communion:**

Brenda Percival, Margaret Rogers, Gladys Jolley

### **Other Donations:**

**Africa Fund:** Olive van der Boon, Clare Hayton, Coffee Morning,

**Asylum Fund:** Joanna Wooff, Helen Stuart, Cheryl Johnson

Jean and Les Johnson, Anon x 4

Funds currently in use are: Africa Fund, Audio Visual, Church Hall, Building & Maintenance, Garden of Rest, General, Grave Maintenance, Heath Road Graveyard, Heating and Youth worker

**Unless otherwise stated donations will go into the General Fund.**

**TOTAL DONATIONS RECEIVED BY ST THOMAS'**  
**APRIL 2017    £1301.17**

If you want to discuss any issues around wills and legacies please ring the Parish Treasurer Sarah Riley on 01942 722747

## **In Loving Memory of**

**Margaret Hilton** from Mrs Freda Darby

A dear Cousin, **Fred Lockett** from Alan, Jean and Family

**Alex Bridge** and **Eileen Houghton** from Madge Twist

## **Birthday Remembrance of**

**Graham McLaren.** A dearly loved Dad and Grandad  
From Pauline, Kevin, Susan, Jack and Scarlett

**Gilbert Evans** (11th March), **Doris Evans** (22nd March) and  
**Walter Evans** (30th April) from Roy and Val Hilton

**Thomas McIlwee**—a loving dad and grandad  
from Linda, Karen and Families

**Clara Shaw** (29th April), a loving Mum and Grandma  
From Barbara, Malcolm and Family

**Anne Pennington** (11th April). A dear Wife, Mother Mother-in-Law and  
Grandmother. Dearly Loved from David and Family

## **Birthday and Anniversary Remembrance of**

**Harold Slack** (14th and 25th April). A loving Husband, Dad and Grandad.  
From Edna, Ian, Susan, Graham and Families

## **Anniversary Remembrance of**

**Frances (Fay) Foster** (March 16th). Dearly loved mother of  
Edward and Janet and beloved grandmother.

**Stuart Richard Collins (Stu)**, 20th April. A Dearly Loved Son, Brother and Uncle. From his loving mum Jeanette and Family

A very dear Husband **Kenneth Parkinson**, died April 27th 2011  
From his Loving Wife Vera and Family

Dear Parents **Jessie** (12th March) and **Douglas Evans** (21st April)  
From Hazel

With Thanks for the Diamond Wedding Anniversary of  
**Val and Roy Hilton,**  
who were married in St Thomas' Church on 3rd April 1957



## St Lukes' Donations



### Birthday Remembrance of

A dear Mum and Nanna **Nellie Thomas** (29th April)  
from all the family

### Birthday and Anniversary Remembrance of

**Harold Slack** (14th and 25th April)  
a loving husband, Dad and Grandad  
from Edna, Ian, Susan and family

### In Memory Of

**Hannah Prescott**  
from M Cook, M&C Pye, M&H Jackson, I&R Prescott



# St Thomas' Flowers



## FLOWERS IN CHURCH FOR APRIL

1ST APRIL	NO FLOWERS
8TH APRIL	NO FLOWERS
15TH APRIL	ALL LADIES—EASTER FLOWERS
22ND APRIL	ALL LADIES—EASTER FLOWERS
29TH APRIL	ALL LADIES—DISMANTLE MRS LYON, MRS PILLING, MRS DAVIES

## FLOWERS IN CHURCH DURING APRIL

DATE	ALTAR	LADY CHAPEL
2ND APRIL	LENT	LENT
9TH APRIL	LENT	LENT
16TH APRIL	EASTER FLOWERS— CONGREGATION	EASTER FLOWERS— CONGREGATION
23RD APRIL	EASTER FLOWERS— CONGREGATION	EASTER FLOWERS— CONGREGATION
30TH APRIL	VACANT	Birthday memories of Beartrice Brown, a much loved Auntie. From Joan, Dennis and Wendy

## FLOWER GUILD DONATIONS

In loving memory of Margaret Berry, a dear cousin and friend from Doreen Rimmer and family

### Apology: Omission from February Magazine

In loving memory of Margaret Hilton from Maureen and Les Cook

In loving memory of Elsie Stone from Maureen and Les Cook



# The Film Review

## With Rob Carson



### **The LEGO Batman Movie (U) Directed by Chris McKay**

**Stars the Voices of:** Will Arnett, Michael Cera, Rosario Dawson, Ralph Fiennes, Zach Galifianakis, Jenny Slate, Mariah Carey, Billy Dee Williams, Eddie Izzard, Hector Elizondo, Channing Tatum, and Jason Mantzoukas

**In a Nutshell:** A spin off is a tricky thing to get right and many have tried with mixed results... but when that spin off is essentially another Batman movie, I guess the task and the end result are easier to nail than your average episode of Joey. One of the greatest things too, is that apart from say the Nolan and Burton ones... this also manages to be one of the purest and best Bat movies to date! It's biggest pleasures and keys to success lie in throwing in even the kitchen sink along so many gags and characters and references to everything that ever was in the world of Batman. Beautifully crafting the tale of Batman as the loner character who only thinks of himself and doesn't really want to settle down and going with that angle is a simple bit of storytelling that works great, the genius stroke lies in expanding on the relationship between Bats and his nemesis The Joker (wonderfully voiced by Zach) and how they truly depend on each other even if they won't admit it, it's genius and hilarious and wonderfully done. This sort of detail in the storytelling is what makes this so special alongside the millions of references and characters that are lovingly referenced and scattered throughout... it makes this such a unique blend of great writing and storytelling with plenty of crazy things throughout to keep it so offbeat and ridiculous too. No spoiling of it's many surprises here that's for sure but it's a treat what exactly is in store. Wonderfully voiced, beautifully realised and just so much fun... this is just every single thing you want it to be! So naturally you need to go and see it right away! **Rating: 10/10**



### **John Wick: Chapter II (15) Directed by Chad Stahelski**

**Stars:** Keanu Reeves, Riccardo Scamarcio, Ian McShane, Laurence Fishburne, Ruby Rose, Common, Claudia Gerini, Lance Reddick, Tobias Segal, John Leguizamo, Peter Stormare, and Bridget Moynahan

**In a Nutshell:** When a film flies at you from leftfield at some point and then becomes a instant favourite of yours, it's a great thing... but then the pressure is then on if they decide to make a sequel, could it possibly catch that same





# The Film Review

## With Rob Carson



flavour? Given the first came out of nowhere, how can a sequel possibly do the same or have the same effect? This problem faces the upcoming Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 2 and also faces Mr Wick in his sequel right here and it's a problem that proves the worry founded in some areas because while action-tastic and great fun throughout, it just doesn't pack the same punch and proves a bit too over simple at times. But without being too down on it, this is still a action sequel to be admired.... the action is stunning, so beautifully choreographed and packing an almighty punch... it's a blitz of frenetic charm that is extremely enjoyable throughout and definitely an area that matches the first movie for intensity.... it's just that in some of this, the real heart and charm of the story at the heart of the original gets a bit glossed over... the story here is so much more simple and efficient whereas the story of the original had a real heartache and drive that made Keanu have to work that much harder to emote and pull out the stops acting wise.... he's still cool here but he lacks the real emotion of the first at times and it's a shame... but better to not focus too much on that, because this is still a lean and mean action sequel which still have a fun story at it's core that expands the universe established in the first movie and introduces some cool new characters not least a Matrix reunion with Larry Fishburne in a fun cameo.... if you loved the first movie you'll still find plenty to love and you'll be left wanting plenty more too, never a bad thing!

**Rating: 8/ 10**

### Also Seen:

Resident Evil: The Final Chapter (15) 7/10

The Founder (12A) 7/10

Hidden Figures (PG) 8/10

### Also Released in April:

The Boss Baby (U) (April 7<sup>th</sup>) Going in Style (12A) (April 7<sup>th</sup>)

Raw (18) (April 7<sup>th</sup>) A Quiet Passion (12A) (April 7<sup>th</sup>)

Table 19 (15) (April 7<sup>th</sup>) Fast Eight (12A) (April 14<sup>th</sup>)

The Handmaiden (18) (April 14<sup>th</sup>) Colossal (15) (April 21<sup>st</sup>)

Rules Don't Apply (12A) (April 21<sup>st</sup>)

Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. II (12A) (Apr 28<sup>th</sup>)





## EASTER SYMBOLS

At Easter it is all bunnies, eggs and lambs in the shops. Why are they symbols of Easter?

One of the oldest Spring symbols in the world is the egg - it promises new life as in Spring, fluffy yellow chicks are hatched from eggs.



The hare was a symbol of the moon and is connected with Easter because the date of Easter depends upon the full moon. Over time, the hare became a rabbit, because there are more rabbits around than hares!

The lamb represents Jesus and links His death to that of the lamb sacrificed on the first Passover. Jesus is called "the Lamb of God."

## EASTER WORDSEARCH

All the words hidden in this word-search are to do with Spring and Easter - can you find them all?

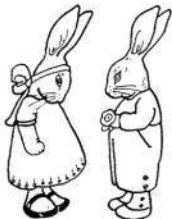
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F	U	B	I	N	A	G	P	O	P
F	C	M	I	C	R	S	G	Y	M
O	K	A	Y	R	K	S	S	E	O
D	P	L	N	E	D	R	A	G	S
I	I	C	R	O	C	U	S	A	S
L	L	B	G	N	I	R	P	S	O
B	U	F	L	O	W	E	R	D	L
U	T	D	U	O	L	C	D	U	B

bird blossom bud  
bunny chick cloud crocus  
daffodil duck egg flower  
garden grass hare lamb lily  
spring tulip

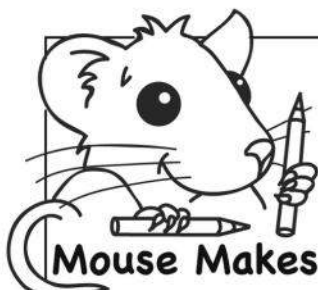


**How do baby hens dance?**  
Chick to chick.

**Why does the chicken go to the theatre?**  
For hentertainment.



**Which rabbits were famous bank robbers?**  
Bunny and Clyde!



Colour in the cross, cut out and glue onto card to make an Easter card.



# HAPPY EASTER

+

# JESUS IS ALIVE!

Read the Easter story in Luke 22-24



"God loved the world so much that he gave his one and only Son so that whoever believes in Him may not be lost, but have eternal life."

John 3:16



+ **THE CROSS** +  
is a symbol of  
**DEATH**

It reminds us how God's Son, Jesus, was put to death by being nailed to a cross.

+ **THE CROSS** +  
is a symbol of  
**LIFE**

It reminds us that Jesus has risen from the dead and is alive with God in heaven.



+ **THE CROSS** +  
is a symbol of  
**LOVE**

It reminds us God loves us so much that through His Son Jesus we can become God's children too.

+ **THE CROSS** +  
is a symbol of  
**HOPE**

It reminds us that as God's children we will one day be with God in heaven.

# Bible Bite

A short story from the Bible

It can be read in the Bible in  
Mt 21:1-11, Mk 11:1-11, Lk 19:28-38, Jn 12:12-19

Thousands of people went to Jerusalem to celebrate the Passover feast each year. This year Jesus and his friends went too.

Two miles outside Jerusalem Jesus said to two of his friends



Go into that village and bring back the donkey you find there.

If anyone asks, say 'The Lord needs it.'



So off they went...

and they found it as Jesus had said



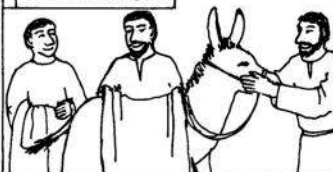
Why are you taking our donkey?

The Lord needs it.



That's alright then

They brought it back to Jesus, and made a saddle from a cloak.



They spread more cloaks on the road to make it a way fit for a king.



Others cut palm branches and waved them.

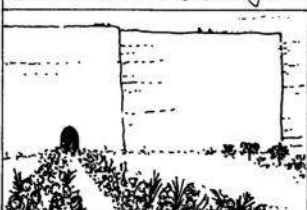


They shouted the traditional welcome to the Passover feast

God bless the one who comes in the name of the Lord!



As they got closer to Jerusalem the crowd grew.



Everyone shouted to welcome Jesus as king



The teachers of the laws were angry



Teacher, you should stop them calling you 'king'.

But Jesus replied

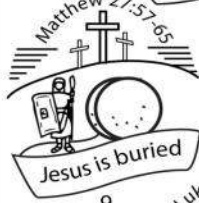
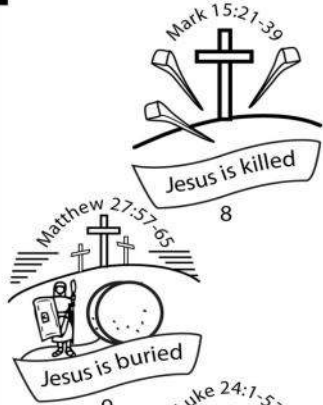
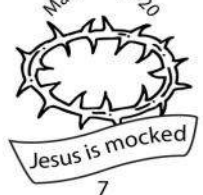
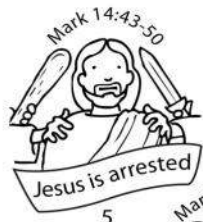
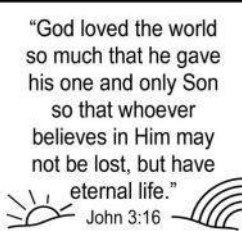
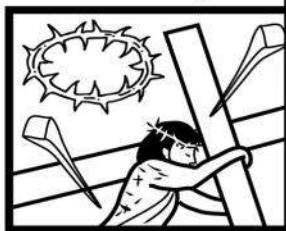


What they say is so true that even if I made them stop, the stones would shout!

# Colouring Page



## JESUS IS ALIVE!



©deborah noble@parishpump.co.uk



# The Registers



## Funerals - "May they rest in peace"

23rd Feb	Joan Holland	Vicarage Road	80
1st Mar	Andrew Burkes	Windsor Road	44
3rd Mar	Eileen Houghton	Morden Avenue	98
8th Mar	Donald Thornley	Harold Avenue	78
8th Mar	Hannah Prescott	Bolton Road	102
10th Mar	Robert Jamieson	Tenbury Drive	75
27th Mar	Austin Bullen	Wentworth Road	82
31st Mar	Richard Bowers	Heath Road	98
31st Mar	Maureen Walsh	Bolton Road	70

## Holy Baptism -

"We welcome them into the Lord's family"



26th Feb	Oscar Stanley	Bryn Road
26th Feb	Ivy Davies	Heather Grove
26th Feb	Lillian Palmer	Peter Street
12th Mar	Rory Morrison	Trent Road
12th Mar	Oliver Anderton	Wigan Road
19th Mar	Hasan, Hossein & Sobar	Ashton
26th Mar	Najmeh, Bitra, Fatemeh & Shahram	Ashton

# Church Organisations in the Parish of St Thomas, Ashton-in Makerfield

## Boys Brigade

**Captain:** Gareth Hamlett (07903866501 )

**Anchor Boys (Tuesday: 5.45 p.m.)**

Olwen Wright (389595)

**Junior Section (Tuesday 6.45 p.m.)**

Kat Duckworth (07517486188)

**Company Section (Tuesday: 7.30 p.m.)**

Contact Gareth Hamlett

## Girl Guides

**Rainbows (Tuesday: 5.30 p.m.)**

Anne Wooff (724207)

**3rd & 4th Ashton Brownies**

**(Wednesday and Thursday: 6.30 pm)**

Irene Taylor (Wednesday) (703410)

Susan Hughes (Thursday) (725291)

**St Luke's Brownies (Tues: 6.15 p.m.)**

Susan Hughes (725291)

**3rd Ashton Guides & Ranger Guides**

**(Tuesday: 7.15 p.m.)**

Rachel Starkie (718350)

**Music Group** Mary Owen (203277)

**Sunday – 10.45 a.m.**

## St Thomas' Choir

**Sunday - 6.30 p.m.**

Paul Tushingham (711085)

## Coffee Mornings at St Thomas'

**Tues - 10 a.m.**

**Thurs - (after 9.45 a.m. communion)**

Barbara Taylor (205136)

## Children's Sunday Clubs – 10.45 a.m.

**Bubbles (Pre-School)**

**Splash (R-Y2), Xstream (Y3-Y6)**

**Bell Tower (Y7-Y11)**

Sue Thomas (727275)

sue@stthomasandstluke.co.uk

## St. Luke's Donation Secretary

Mike Pye (517318)

## St. Luke's Treasurer

John Boon (728900)

## Wednesday Weenies

**Wed – 1.00 p.m.:** Jan Cornthwaite

(721626)

## The PCC Secretary

Dorothy Burgess (701542)

dottib1@yahoo.co.uk

## Youth Work

Sue Thomas (727275)

## Flower Guild

Meta Laites (723679)

## Duke of Edinburgh's Award (14-18+)

**Sunday 6.30pm Church Hall**

Ceri Mansell (727417)

## Bowling Club

Henry Hunter (712709)

## St Thomas' Mothers' Union

**3rd Wed: 7.30 p.m.:** Barbara Taylor (205136)

# Church Officials in the Parish of St Thomas, Ashton-in Makerfield

<u>Vicar</u> <b>Rev Jeremy Thomas</b> 727275	<u>Church Office</u> 721 484
<u>Curate</u> <b>Rev Sam Green</b> 389940	<u>Ordained Local Minister</u> <b>Rev Izzy Schafer</b> 717300
<u>Readers</u> <b>Malcolm Bold</b> 276379 <b>Alan Harrison</b> 718618 <b>Tricia Hancox</b> 201540 <b>Carole Pye</b> 517318	<u>St Thomas' Church Wardens</u> <b>Ken Laites</b> 723679 <b>Paula Gillespie</b> 711270 <u>Deputy Wardens</u> <b>Barbara Taylor</b> 205136 <b>Tony Cornthwaite</b> 721 626
<u>Electoral Roll Secretary</u> <b>Paul Weston</b> 202649	<u>St Luke's Church Warden</u> <b>Carole Pye</b> 517318
<u>Treasurer (St Thomas)</u> <b>Sarah Riley</b> 07712 584954	<u>Church Architect</u> <b>Bill Schafer</b> 717300
<u>Church Hall Bookings</u> <b>Church Office</b> 721 484	<u>St Thomas' Organist &amp; Choirmaster</u> <b>Paul Tushingham</b> 711085
<u>Gift Aid Secretary</u> <b>Clare Hayton</b> 273183	<u>F.W.O. Secretary</u> <b>Jackie Wilson</b> 712368
<u>St Thomas' Donations Secretary</u> <b>Anita Archer</b> 760082	<u>Magazine Co-ordinator</u> <b>Jack Stuart</b> 726972
<u>Magazine Editor</u> <b>Rachel Webster</b> 273453 - contact for advertising	