All Saints' North Hillingdon 14th April 2024

In today's Gospel, the risen Jesus appears to his eleven disciples. He does not appear as a Platonic soul, a ghost, or a hallucination. Instead, he can be touched and seen, has flesh and bones, and can consume baked fish. Against all their expectations, a dead man had returned, through the power of God, bodily and objectively, from death.

Even while insisting on this bodiliness and objectivity, we must not go to the opposite extreme. It really was Jesus, the crucified, who had returned from the dead. But he did not come back simply resuscitated to the confines of ordinary space and time. He was not, in a word, like Lazarus, the daughter of Jairus, or the son of the widow of Naim, all people who had been raised only to die again.

He has triumphed over death and all that pertains to death. His resurrected body is a foretaste and promise of what God intends for all of us.

NEH:HYMNS AT 10 O'CLOCK

| Gathering | 345 Christ is the King, O friends |
|-----------|-------------------------------------|
| Gradual | 443 Rejoice! The Lord is King |
| Offertory | 362 Glorious things of thee |
| Comm. | 353 Dear Lord and Father of mankind |
| Sending | 120 Thine be the glory, risen |

Notices This week

| Wednesday April 17 th | Revd Ulric |
|--|-------------------|
| 10 AM | |
| Sunday April 21 st - 4th Sunday | Revd Ulric |
| after Easter 8 & 10am | |
| Saturday 20 th April | Church Hall |
| Reggae & Soul Live event | 7:30 -11:30PM |
| Tickets £15 | |
| Summer Fete | Church |
| Saturday 29 th June 12-3pm | Grounds |

To book Banns of Marriage, Weddings, Baptisms and so on, please come along to Vestry Hour, which normally takes place in church on Saturdays between 10:00 & 11:00 (No appointment is needed.)



THIS WEEK'S INTENTIONS

We hold in your presence all who are being cared for in this parish, for the staff at the care homes for their care and dedication. We name before you all those with particular needs who have asked for our prayers;

Joan Taylor, Lee Arnold, Vernice Clarke, Linda White, Daphne Dix; Macey Ann Brazil, Veronica Samuels, Gill Mayer; Beverly Leavy, Hazel & Helen Parris, Pearl Syer, Lynn Taylor, Mark Callaghan, Susie Bromham, Georgie Isaiah, Marion Fogell, The Reverend Greville Thomas and John Clarke.

May they know your presence with them, and that you are their strength, their healing, and their salvation.

We remember before God those who have died recently:

Give strength to those who are left to grieve and help us to share in each other's sorrow.

For those whose anniversary falls at about this time;

| 14 th | Doris Griffits |
|------------------|---------------------------|
| 17 th | Sheila Golding |
| 19 th | Kay Clark Maud Clemens |

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Sunday 14 April 2024

Third Sunday of Easter

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.

FIRST READING

The reading from Acts must be read as either the First or Second Reading. Either Acts 3:12-19

A reading from the Acts of the

Apostles.

Peter addressed the people, "You Israelites, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we had made him walk? The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our ancestors has glorified his servant Jesus, whom you handed over and rejected in the presence of Pilate, though he had decided to release him. But you rejected the Holy and Righteous One and asked to have a murderer given to you, and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. And by faith in his name, his name itself has made this man strong, whom you see and know; and the faith that is through Jesus has given him this perfect health in the presence of all of you. And now, friends, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. In this way God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, that his Messiah would suffer. Repent therefore, and turn to God so that your sins may be wiped out."

Or Zephaniah 3:14-end

PSALM Psalm 4

6 R In peace, in peace I will lie down and sleep.

- Answer me when I call, O God of my righteousness;
- you set me at liberty when I was in trouble;
- have mercy on me and hear my prayer. How long will you nobles dishonour my glory;
- how long will you love vain things and seek after falsehood? R

But know that the Lord has shown me his marvellous kindness;

when I call upon the Lord, he will hear me.

Stand in awe, and sin not; commune with your own heart upon your bed, and be still. R

Offer the sacrifices of righteousness and put your trust in the Lord.

There are many that say, "Who will

show us any good?"

- Lord, lift up the light of your countenance upon us.
- You have put gladness in my heart, more than when their corn and wine and oil increase.

In peace I will lie down and sleep, for it is you Lord, only, who make me dwell in safety. R

SECOND READING Either 1 John 3:1-7

A reading from the first letter of John. See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure. Everyone who commits sin is guilty of lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. You know that he was revealed to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. No one who abides in him sins; no one who sins has either seen him or known him. Little children, let no one deceive

you. Everyone who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous.

Or Acts 3:12-19

GOSPEL Luke 24:36b-48

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

While the eleven and their companions were talking about what they had heard, Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you." They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. He said to them, "Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have." And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, "Have you anything here to eat?" They gave him a piece of broiled fish, and he took it and ate in their presence. Then he said to them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you - that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled." Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things."

POST COMMUNION

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.



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GOOD VIBES REGGRE AND SOUL PARTY



Have a blast at our annual live music event

APRIL 20TH 2024 7.30PM-11.30PM

ALL SAINTS CHURCH HALL, LONG LANE, HILLINGDON

Tickets £15 - bring your own drinks and nibbles. Available from Lesley (07742 326667) or Ikthmp@aol.com



14 April 2024 Third Sunday of Easter

Connecting faith and daily life

God of surprises



The Church Fathers Part 4, Tertullian

by Richard Gunning

Richard Gunning continues our look at some of the early Church Fathers. Of all the early Fathers, Tertullian (c. 160-225) was probably the most fierce and uncompromising. Hailing from Carthage in Africa, he was a prolific author and the first Christian writer to produce an extensive body of Latin Christian literature. He originated new theological concepts and developed early church doctrine. He is perhaps most famous for

being the first writer in Latin known to use the term "Trinity".

A strict disciplinarian, ascetic and misogynist, he wrote that fornicators should not be forgiven and women should conform to St Paul's teaching and know their place. Most significantly, in his teaching on the Trinity, he claimed that the Son was subordinate to the Father.

Tertullian was never martyred and, because of his extreme views and occasional heresy, he fell away from the Church and has never been called a saint. 👻

66 And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love." 1 Corinthians 13:13

Gillian Cooper reflects on Acts 3:12-19

ou Israelites": so Peter addresses the crowd who have gathered near the Temple, drawn by the news of a miraculous healing. Peter's message is theological dynamite. He speaks of the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, the God his audience have known as their God, the one true God. And he asserts that Jesus, who was executed as a criminal, rejected by his own people and condemned by the Romans, was this God's anointed one, the long-awaited Messiah.

Little wonder that this message gets Peter and his friends arrested. The Jews' very existence depends on their rigid adherence to their faith in the midst of the ruling pagans. They know that the Messiah will be a human ruler through whom God will defeat the Romans, not some criminal who seems still to be performing miracles after his death.

But there is a pattern to be seen, says Peter, looking back through the ancient scriptures. The prophets spoke of suffering as well as glory for the Messiah. Jesus is a surprise. And yet Jesus represents just what the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob would do, that God who constantly surprises, the God who chose the family of undeserving Abraham, and the conniving younger son Jacob to form a people so long ago. It is, like so much of what God did then and continues to do, both unexpected and consistent. 😻

God of surprises, give us understanding to discern your work in the world; that we may play our part in your plan of salvation, and come finally to our place in the everlasting kingdom which you have prepared from the beginning of time. Amen.

Walking with Poppy Goodbye for now

by Gillian Cooper

The vet is kind. She places Poppy gently on my lap, and asks me if I am ready. I tell Poppy she is going to have a lovely sleep. When the drug goes in, she turns her head and looks straight at me, in surprise, not accusation, I hope. I say to her the words my late partner and I so often used in our games with her: "Poppy, go find Mummy". I leave by the back door, alone.

Before I go to bed, I go into the garden as we have always done, as I will continue to do every night. Is there a place for dogs in whatever God has prepared for us after death? Jesus showed his friends that life and love triumph over death, and joy does not end. So I look up at the night sky, and I pray that somehow, somewhere, Poppy and her other mummy have found each other, and are waiting for me. 🔎

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