

Magazine article for MAY 2020  
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Dear Readers,

We are still in the Easter Period so I send you my greetings in the Name of the Risen Lord Jesus Christ.

Do you forget the names of people or places or maybe not recognise the voice of someone, don't worry it happens to all of us at some time.

On Easter Day we heard the moving account of Jesus appearing to Mary Magdalene (John 20 v 15..) she did not recognise Him or the voice but thought it was the gardener. Thinking he was the gardener, she said, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have put him, and I will get him. Jesus said to her, "Mary."

I wonder how Mary felt when Jesus called her by name? She recognised the voice.

Then the event when the disciples were on the road to Emmaus Jesus appeared with them but they did not recognise Him. But Jesus stayed with them for a meal and He took bread and gave thanks, broke it and began to give it to them. Then their eyes were opened and they recognised Him. Just imagine the feelings of those disciples. (Luke 24 13..)

How do we recognise the voice of God through Jesus today and what is He saying to us?

We are moving through terrible times with the world wide effect of the coronavirus in these unprecedented circumstances has resulted in unprecedented changes and we all know what they are.

But can we recognise the Presence of God in these moments as we see nations working together, politicians working together, all areas of the medical professions on the front line of keeping us alive. We see the Presence of God in all religions of our nation working together. We see in practical ways of the instruction Jesus gave to *love one another as He loves us*.

We can recognise the love of God working through the many people on the front line serving humanity in many ways putting their lives at risk for us.

We can recognise the love of God working in our villages of Semington, Whaddon, Hilperton and Staverton in many loving, caring and sharing ways. In these moments we pray for our doctors, nurses, hospitals, carers, care homes, undertakers, paramedics, and all who assist them, plus many others.

We can recognise in these moments how St. Francis heard God calling him to Build His church, he built one church of bricks but built the church of God in the lives of people by the care and love of the practical Gospel in ways of serving the needs of people. We are in these moments learning to see the church without walls, and being the Church with people.

May all of us continue to see God in all people regardless of their religion (or none) or culture.

For help and prayers:

Rev. John Rees 01225 764365 Benefice Rector

Rev. Joy Albone 07931638524 Benefice Curate

Love and prayers, take care.

Hugh

To go out into the world with moslems, Hindas,etc. and people of no religion working together for all

How we can recognise Jesus in People around us in the situation we are faced with..list  
The church without walls where is the Church?

I wonder how Mary felt as she went to the tomb that morning?

Despite the restrictions, what can you do to make this Easter a special celebration today?

What does 'resurrection' mean to you?

Alleluia, Christ is risen:

The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.

The Lord is risen and the Spirit is with us. Alleluia.

Christ is risen for God has worked wonders. Alleluia.

O risen Lord, who in your first appearance to Mary was mistaken for the gardener ...

Be present, be present, O Christ, as you were in the midst of your disciples, and show yourself to us in all our mistakes and uncertainties, O risen Lord, who appeared to your dejected disciples on the road to Emmaus, and opened to them the scriptures so that their hearts burned within them ...

Be present, be present O Christ, as you were in the midst of your disciples, and set our hearts on fire with love for you.

O risen Lord, who gave your distraught and distracted followers the assurance of healing and forgiveness ...

Be present, be present O Christ, as you were in the midst of your disciples, and bring all together in peace and harmony.

Living God, we worship you today with joy in our hearts and thanksgiving on our lips.

When the powers of evil had done their worst, crucifying your Son, and burying him in death, you raised him to life again:

an act of power giving hope to the world.

Lord Jesus, we rejoice that death could not keep you in its grip; that you were raised to life, alive for evermore.

You greeted your friends and now you stand amongst us in your risen power. Spirit of God, you are always giving life to the people of God, giving birth to children of God.

Remodel us in the image of Jesus, fill us with his love and enable us with his risen power, that we might be faithful to his way, used by you in the redeeming of your world. Amen.  
ART FOR HOLY WEEK We can also approach Holy Week through the eyes of the artist, see what opens up for us and enter the drama and intensity of the days in a more imaginative way. These paintings and images may be challenging, even controversial. May they enrich our thinking this week.