



# Holy Trinity WATERHEAD

Suggested  
donation  
50p

May 2019

[holy trinity waterhead.co.uk](http://holytrinitywaterhead.co.uk)

# Services at Holy Trinity Church

**Sunday 11:00 am      Parish Worship**  
**Wednesday 7:00 pm      Family Communion**  
**Thursday 9:30 am      Morning prayer in the vestry**  
**Baptisms and marriages by arrangement with the Vicar.**  
**Please submit items for the May 2019 magazine by 15 April.**  
**You can e-mail files to paulmonk111@gmail.com**

## People at Holy Trinity Church

### Vicar

**The Revd Dr Paul Monk**  
**St Barnabas' Vicarage, Arundel Street, Oldham OL4 1NL**  
**T: (0161) 624 7708 and E: paulmonk111@gmail.com**

### Assistant Curates

**The Revd Denise Owen (Vicar of St Thomas' Church Moorside)**  
**Tel: (0161) 652 0292 and E:**  
**therevd.dowen@yahoo.co.uk**

**The Revd Jane Hyde**

**Tel: (07734) 886 893 and E: janehyde10@hotmail.com**

|                            |  |                        |
|----------------------------|--|------------------------|
| <b>Administrator</b>       | <b>Sarah Gura</b>                      | <b>(07843) 178 762</b> |
| <b>Readers</b>             | <b>Ruth Lees</b>                       | <b>(0161) 624 0777</b> |
|                            | <b>Rosie Kingham</b>                   | <b>(0161) 652 4265</b> |
| <b>Organists</b>           | <b>Carl Roberts</b>                    | <b>(07748) 476 264</b> |
|                            | <b>Rosie Kingham</b>                   | <b>(0161) 652 4265</b> |
| <b>Wardens</b>             | <b>Rita Walton</b>                     | <b>(07523) 417 043</b> |
|                            | <b>John Wolstencroft</b>               | <b>(0161) 620 2401</b> |
| <b>Church Secretary</b>    | <b>Lynne Schofield</b>                 | <b>(07804) 094 457</b> |
| <b>Church Treasurer</b>    | <b>Vicky Heaton</b>                    | <b>(07906) 077 058</b> |
| <b>Gift-Aid Secretary</b>  | <b>Ruth Lees</b>                       | <b>(0161) 624 0777</b> |
| <b>Parish Hall Manager</b> | <b>Naomi Parkes</b>                    | <b>(07907) 410 606</b> |
| <b>Sunday School</b>       | <b>Yolanda Ryder</b>                   |                        |
| <b>Rainbows</b>            | <b>Sarah Wilson and Natalie Morris</b> |                        |
| <b>Brownies</b>            | <b>Val Lees and Moira Belcher</b>      |                        |
| <b>Guides</b>              | <b>Karen and Lisa Cannon</b>           |                        |
| <b>Beavers</b>             | <b>Hilary Bannister</b>                | <b>(07906) 921 156</b> |
| <b>Cubs</b>                | <b>Lee Thompson</b>                    | <b>(07907) 907 354</b> |
| <b>Scouts</b>              | <b>Mark Dickinson</b>                  | <b>(07976) 666 512</b> |

# Letter from the Vicar

Holy Week occurs during the second half of April. During this short period, we remember a complex series of events, each of which seems to make the next inevitable. Jesus enters Jerusalem, cleanses the Temple, and seems to make a claim to be the promised Messiah. He reinterprets the Law — ‘I give you a new Commandment’— and redefines servanthood by washing dirty feet. He is executed as an imposter but comes back to life a matter of hours later.

During Holy Week, we try to make sense of these events. We do so because we need to understand a Messiah who always seeks to change what we think to bring us closer to God the Almighty.

In ways such as these, Jesus invites us to become more like Him. As onlookers, we start as sinful people and end up forgiven.

As we plan our own responses to Holy Week, I invite everyone to use all opportunities offered by Holy Church to come closer to the Lord Jesus. Spiritual resources abound. The Church building will be open for much of Holy Week. Additional services and events will occur to help us come closer to Jesus.

But one thing is clear: if we aim to pass seamlessly from the triumph of Palm Sunday to the joy of Easter Day without reliving the darker days of Holy Week, we diminish our faith and will fail to understand the achievements of Jesus.

Wishing everyone a Holy Week of enormous spiritual depth:

PAUL

## Holy Week

Holy week starts with Palm Sunday on Sunday 14 April. We start in the Hall Car park, unless the weather is awful. Thereafter, our Churches host at least one event every day of the week. The posters on page 26 and on pages 10 and 11 give all the details.

## Compline

On Monday of Holy Week, we hold a short service of Compline. It lasts about 10 minutes, and is a lovely, gentle way to complete the day.

## The Holiest Week

On Tuesday of Holy Week, our Church hosts a special Churches Together event at St Barnabas Church, starting at 7:00 pm. Each local Church is invited to participate.

## Meditations at the Cross

On the afternoon of Good Friday, Christians throughout the world stop everything and sit at the feet of Jesus on the Cross. We spend a quiet time with meditations and prayers. We wait at St Barnabas from 12 noon till 3:00 pm — the time that Scripture suggests He died.

# Special services for Holy Week

## Easter dawn, by Malcolm Guite

He blesses every love which weeps and grieves  
And now he blesses hers who stood and wept  
And would not be consoled, or leave her love's  
Last touching place, but watched as low light crept  
Up from the east. A sound behind her stirs  
A scatter of bright birdsong through the air.  
She turns, but cannot focus through her tears,  
Or recognise the Gardener standing there.  
She hardly hears his gentle question 'Why,  
Why are you weeping?', or sees the play of light  
That brightens as she chokes out her reply  
'They took my love away, my day is night'  
And then she hears her name, she hears Love say  
The Word that turns her night, and ours, to Day.

© Malcolm Guite and reproduced with permission  
from <http://www.umilta.net/XStations.html>  
This site reproduces the entire series of Malcom Guite's sonnets  
describing the Stations of the Cross.

## From the registers

**Baptisms** Caleb Stanley Osborne on Saturday 23 March, and Oliver William Thomas Taylor on Sunday 24 March.

## Quiz night

The next quiz night will occur in the Parish Hall on Saturday 27 April. Please take your places as soon after 7:00 pm as possible so that we can start promptly at 7:30 pm, and the quiz can end a little earlier. Getting there early will give you a head start and bring your friends to make up your team (maximum of 6 people per team).

Tickets cost £5 per adult, which includes your first glass of wine (or juice) and supper of nibbles and cheese buffet. Children under 12 are free; the cost for those between 12 and 16 tickets is £3.

The bar will be open. There will be a raffle. The cash prize for the winning team is £30. All proceeds will go towards funding the urgent works to the floor at the back of the Church. So come along for a fun evening and help us to carry out these essential works.

## Easter hamper raffle

We will hold a raffle to be drawn on Easter Sunday 21st April. If anyone would like to contribute an item for that there is a box at the back of church with a list of suggested items. We'll be selling tickets from early April.

## Easter flowers

If anyone would like to contribute towards the flowers in Church at Easter, please see Lynne or Sue.

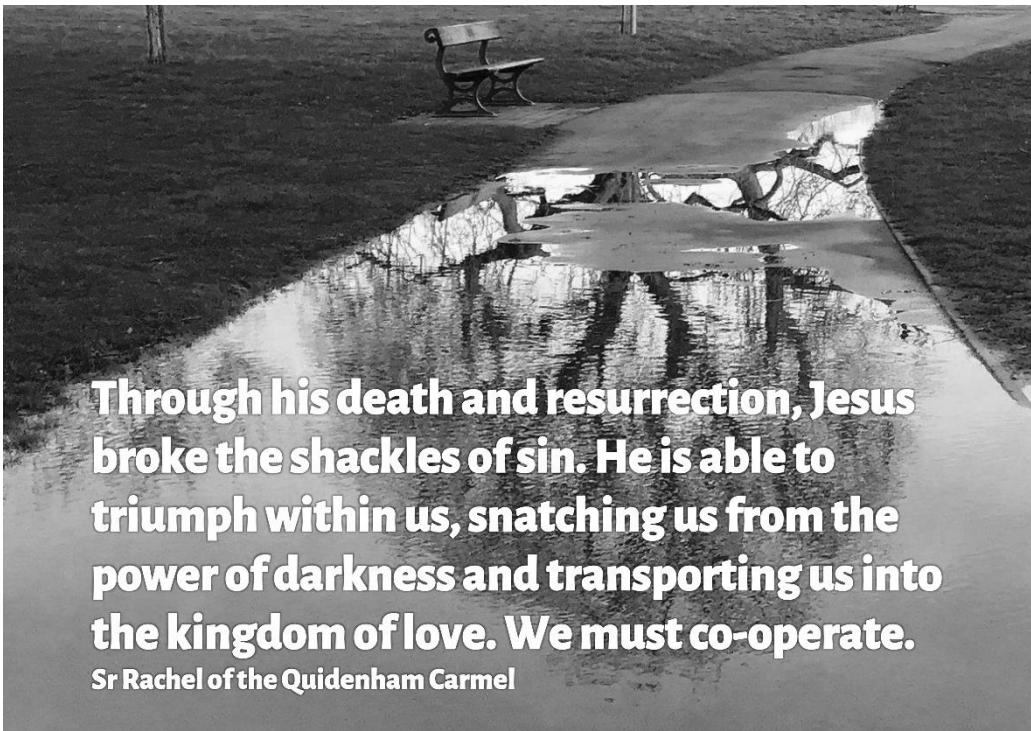
# Church and Parish News

## From the memorial book

- 2 **Alice Baron** died 1992 aged 79 years. 'Loving memories of a dear friend.'
- 3 **Edward Robinson** Loving Husband, Dad, Grandpa and Cousin died 1992 aged 77 years. 'In Heavenly Love Abiding.'
- 6 **Samuel Mellor Schofield** died 1982. 'Loved and remembered every day.'
- 7 **Donald Joseph Harris** died this day 1989 aged 61. 'A Dearly Loved Husband, Dad and Grandad.'
- 9 **Martin Connell**, died this day 2012 aged 62. Always remembered.
- 9 **Harry Widdall, DSM RN**, donor of this book, died 1989, aged 77. He served with distinction on H.M. 'U' Boat *Graph* during World War Two.
- 10 **Alan John Clegg** died this day 1984. 'Remembered always. Love you for ever. Mum and Dad.'
- 11 **Vera Cunningham** nee Pemberton, died 1994 aged 74 years. Beloved Wife of Stanley, Mother of Averil and John.
- 11 **Allen Smith** died this day 1990. 'Memories of you will never die.'
- 12 **Eunice Kirkpatrick** beloved wife of the late Frank, died this day 1997, aged 79. Loved and remembered always.
- 12 **Doris Lees** died this day 1990. Simple words but very true. We will always love and remember you.
- 19 **Sarah Lizzie Dunkerley (Sally)** Died 1996. Remembered with affection. 'O Lord, in Thee I have trusted. Let me never be confounded.'
- 22 **Bill Stott** died this day 2000. Lovingly remembered by Eileen and family.
- 23 **Joseph Connell** died this day 1983 aged 63 years. 'Always remembered.'
- 26 **Frank Wadsworth** born this day 1934. Birthday memories: gone but not forgotten.
- 27 **Lisa Kershaw** died this day 1999 aged 16. An angel too beautiful for this earth.
- 28 **Harold Andrew Prendergast** died this day 2005. Treasured memories and a loving grandad of Lisa – together again.

# 2019 dates for your diary

- Sunday 14 April      11:00 am: Service for **Palm Sunday**. Weather permitting, we start in the Hall car park.
- Monday 15 April      7:00 pm: Service of **Compline** in the Church.
- Tuesday 16 April      7:00 pm: **Churches Together service** at St Barnabas.
- Wednesday 17 April      7:00 pm: **Family communion service** for Holy Week.
- Thursday 18 April      7:00 pm: **Maundy Thursday** in the Church, followed by a **prayer vigil** lasting till midnight.
- Friday 19 April      11:00 am: **Good Friday** service in the Church.  
12:00 noon: **Meditations at the Cross**, at St Barnabas.
- Sunday 21 April      11:00 am: Service for **Easter Day**.
- Saturday 27 April      7:00pm for 7:30 pm: **Quiz Night**, at Waterhead Hall. Tickets cost £5, which includes supper.



**Through his death and resurrection, Jesus broke the shackles of sin. He is able to triumph within us, snatching us from the power of darkness and transporting us into the kingdom of love. We must co-operate.**

Sr Rachel of the Quidenham Carmel

# Bible readings for April

## Sunday 7 April

Passion Sunday

First: Isaiah 43:16-21

Epistle: Philippians 3:4b-14

Gospel: John 12:1-8

## Sunday 14 April

Palm Sunday

First: Isaiah 50:4-9

Epistle: Philippians 2:5-11

Gospel: Luke 22:26-43

## Sunday 21 April

Easter Sunday

First: Isaiah 65:17-25

Epistle: 1 Cor 15:19-26

Gospel: John 20:1-18

## Sunday 28 April

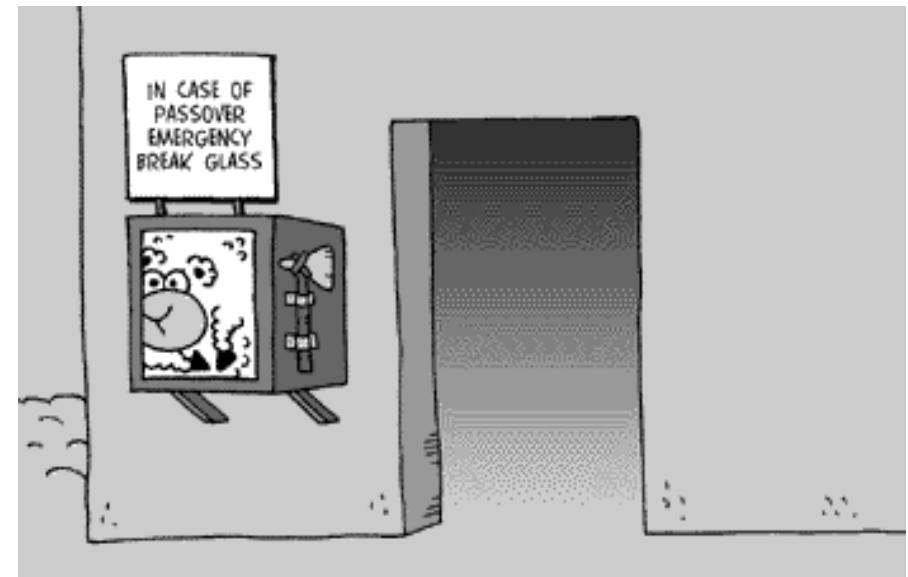
Low Sunday

First: Acts 5:27-32

Epistle: 1 Corinthians 15:19-26

Gospel: John 20:1-18

These readings come from the Revised Common Lectionary.





# Maundy Thursday

## Thursday 18 April

starts at 7:00 pm

[holytrinitywaterhead.co.uk](http://holytrinitywaterhead.co.uk)



# Good Friday

## Friday 19 April

Service for all the family, at 11:00 am

[holytrinitywaterhead.co.uk](http://holytrinitywaterhead.co.uk)

SAINt  
Barnabas  
CLARKSFIELD

Friday 19 April  
12:00 noon – 3:00 pm

# Meditations at the Cross

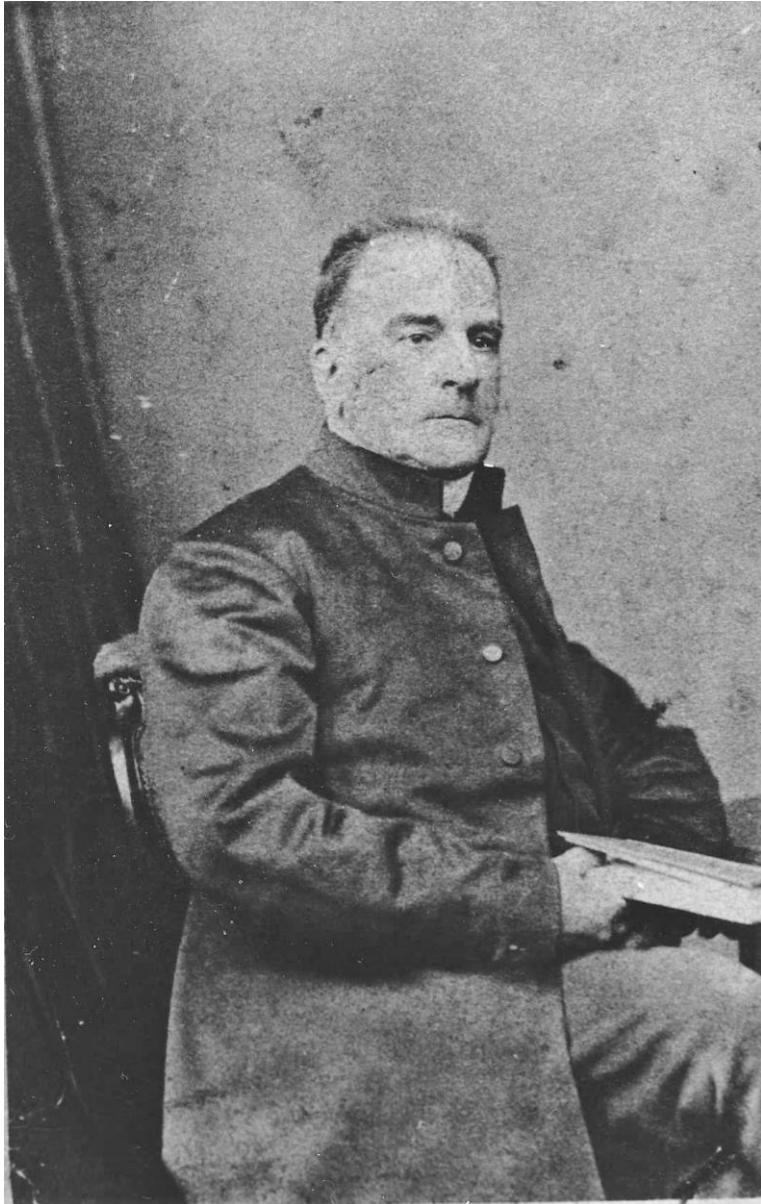


# Easter Sunday

A joy-filled family service to celebrate the  
resurrection of our Lord

## Sunday 21 April at 11:00 am

[holy trinity waterhead.co.uk](http://holytrinitywaterhead.co.uk)



### The Revd Patrick Reynolds (1845–1854)

Reynolds was the Church's first Vicar, who was previously curate of Blackley Church. Parliament paid his stipend but Reynolds had to finance the new Church. Amazingly, he laid the first stone within three months of arriving here. He wrote a total of 4,800 begging letters, and raised the astonishing sum needed of £3,780 5s 6d. He also built the new *Waterhead National School* which opened in 1852 as a joint Day and Sunday School; and helped found St Thomas' Moorside as a daughter Church.

Copies of these two ancient photographs were donated to the Church very recently.

The dates and history of photography suggests the photo of Vicar Reynolds (left) could be one of the very first photographs ever taken in Oldham. That a Vicar of Waterhead Church was photographed in the 1850s surely demonstrates the wealth and status of this part of Oldham.



### The Revd Francis Buckley Broadbent (1855–1878)

Vicar Broadbent was Waterhead's second Vicar. He enclosed the graveyard (1857), added a tower and spire to the Church (1876), started a Sunday school that ultimately became Littlemoor School (1870s onward), started a dazzling array of societies and self-help groups, and imported into Oldham the tradition of the Whit Walk. Broadbent died in office having been Vicar of Holy Trinity Church for 23 years.

Three motifs run through the history of the chosen people. The first is Law. God made a contract with the people and the signature on that contract was the Law given to Moses. This same Moses also said that God would raise from among their number a prophet like himself. A millennium later, Jesus was anointed as this prophet. Just as Moses' laws were intended to show our love for God, so Jesus gives us a law, a new commandment. We are to love one another as Jesus loves us. This new law has the same force as forbidding theft or murder or lying or idolatry. Jesus chose love as the key because scripture tells us that God himself is love.

Second, law always requires interpretation, so we need a barrister of the faith. Jesus was such a teacher; in Aramaic, he was a rabbi. Like all rabbis, Jesus had a close group of nomadic followers who followed everywhere. A rabbi could ask his disciples to do anything. If they didn't like it, they simply 'tore up the contract' and left. We see some of Jesus' first disciples doing that when Jesus told them they must eat his flesh. (John 6:66).

The only thing a Jewish rabbi could not ask of his disciples was for them to wash his feet. Only a slave could be asked to do that. In context, then, the story of Jesus washing the feet of his own disciples is odd. The Bible tells us the disciples were confused. They knew Jesus was saying something radical. Some were too afraid to face it, others too embarrassed at his unorthodox approach; maybe some did not understand.

It's obvious to us what Jesus was saying: love makes a servant of everyone. Loving servanthood is always a central part of being a Christian and there is nothing that we cannot be asked to do.

And there's a third seam running through the bedrock of faith that underpins the history of the chosen people. We don't know when it started, but there arose the idea of grapes, a vineyard and therefore wine. Jesus wanted to show that he was the next chapter of the story, so he took bread and wine, blessed them, ate and drank, and said, 'Do this in remembrance of me'.

We immerse ourselves in our own Holy Week and as we do so we see the outworking of these same ideas:

- We learn His new commandment to love, and his invitation to use love as the sacred cement that binds us together.
- We learn that love is a form of servanthood to the extent that we are slaves to Him who was love.

- To prevent our forgetting the new commandment to love, we break bread and drink wine as a way of remembering the way that love became incarnate—God became a man to show us the outworkings of this love.

**The word Maundy comes from the Latin *mandatum novum* — new commandment — which refers to John 13:34–35 when, after Jesus washed the feet of his disciples, he said 'A new commandment I give you: "Love one another". As I have loved you, so you must love one another.'**

God our Father, your Son Jesus Christ was obedient to the end and drank the cup prepared for him: may we who share his table watch with him through the night of suffering and be faithful.



# Maundy Thursday

The words 'Lamb of God' occur fairly often in our liturgy and can help us understand the significance of Easter.

The Jewish phrase 'Lamb of God' refers to a custom in ancient Israel. Once a year, the High Priest sought to deal with the people's sins and pacify God.

He first symbolically laid his hands on the head of a young goat and prayed that God would transfer the priest's own sins onto it. That animal — the *scapegoat* — was then forced to flee into the wilderness (Leviticus 16:8, 10:26).

Having made himself sinless, the High Priest was now sufficiently pure to achieve a bigger sacrifice: in a second prayer, he asked God to transfer the sins of the people symbolically onto a lamb. He then slaughtered the 'Lamb of God' and described its blood as an atoning sacrifice. In this way, the Lamb of God took the sins of the people during the Jewish festival of *Yom Kippur*. The lamb was a substitute.

In just the same way, Jesus died on the Cross with our sins on his soul. He was also a substitute, because when he died our sins went with him. With our sins gone, we are morally clean.

In consequence of Jesus taking our sins, the barrier between us and God is removed, we can come closer to God and get to know Him. In old fashioned language, this relationship is termed being 'at one' with God, explaining why the word 'at-one-ment' was invented. Today, we often conflate these words and talk about *atonement*; and we sometimes call this model of dealing with sin 'substitutionary atonement', because Jesus took our sins in order to achieve our being at one with God: he was substituted for us and took the punishment for our sins.

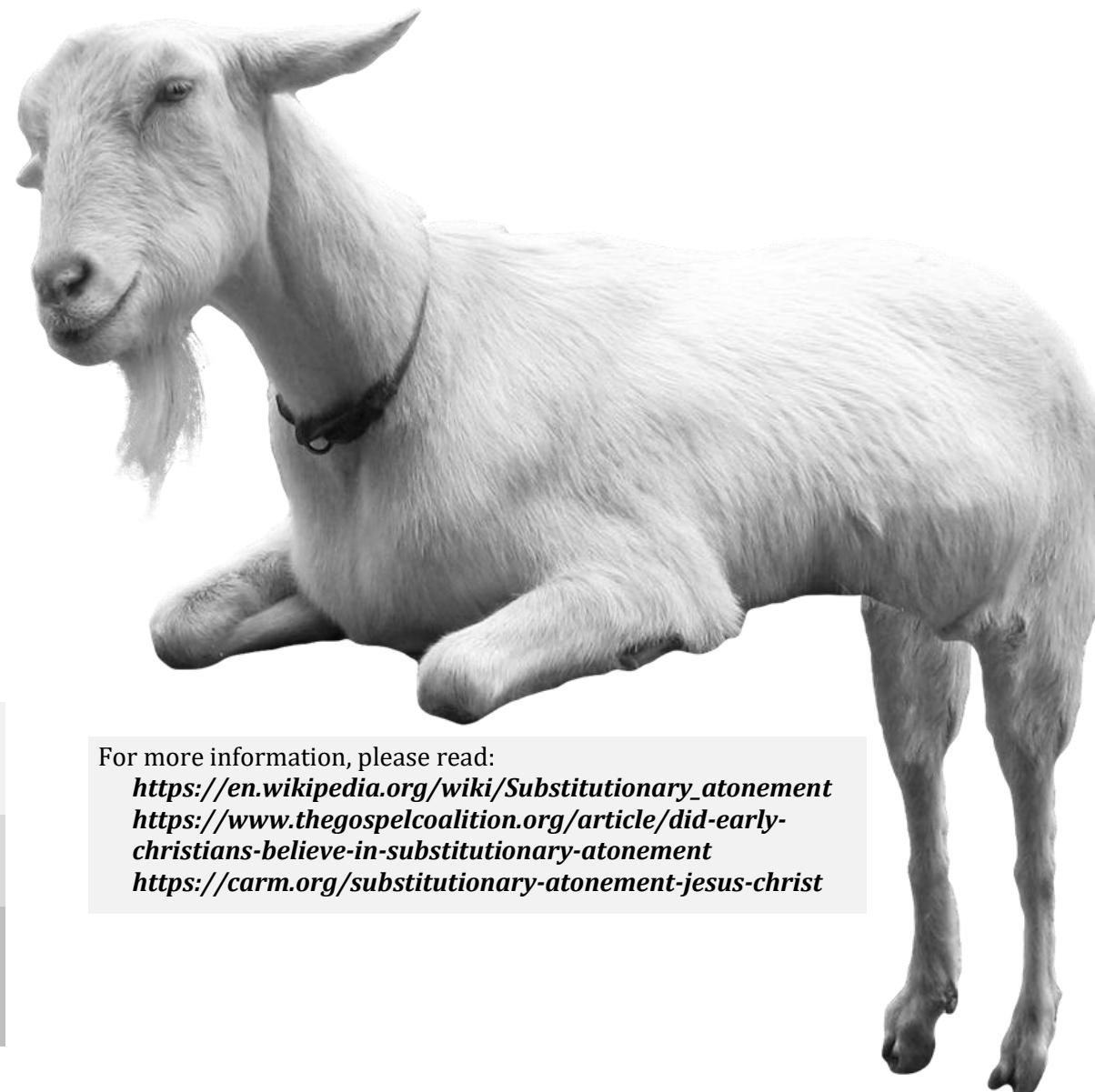
Nowhere in the Bible is Jesus atonement spelt out in satisfactory detail. But there are a great many passages that lend it support:-

**Isaiah 53:5** A prophecy about Jesus in which, it is said, 'he was pierced for our transgressions and crushed for our iniquities ... *by his wounds we are healed.*'

**Isaiah 53:6** The next sentence is even more explicit: 'God has laid on him [i.e. Jesus] the iniquity of us all.'

**John 1:29** As John the Baptist saw Jesus coming toward him for baptism, he said, 'behold the *Lamb of God* who takes away the sins of the world.'

# Good Friday



For more information, please read:

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Substitutionary\\_atonement](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Substitutionary_atonement)  
<https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/article/did-early-christians-believe-in-substitutionary-atonement>  
<https://carm.org/substitutionary-atonement-jesus-christ>

140 ASHTON RD / OLDSHAM / OL8 1QT

# HEADHUNTERS OLDHAM

HAIR SALON

Tel: 0161 624 2984

Email: headhuntersoldham@icloud.com

@headhuntersoldham

@headhuntersoldham

How do we know the experiment worked, that Jesus did manage to take the sins of all the world into his body, into his soul, into the Godhead? In the last of the four Gospels, St John pens a strange afterthought of a phrase. Peter and John enter the empty tomb and see a pile of abandoned grave-clothes 'as well as the cloth that had been wrapped around Jesus' head. The cloth was still lying in its place, separate from the linen' (John 20:7).

In fact it's not an afterthought at all because to this day a Palestinian craftsman shows his satisfaction with a completed work by taking a cloth and wiping his brow with it. He then places that cloth before the work. And Jesus the master carpenter placed a face-cloth in front of a task he thought satisfactory.

But what is the task? Consider the plinth on which Jesus' body lay, a catafalque hewn from the bare rock. On it, the disciples saw two angels. The image reminds us of the ark of the covenant, a gold-plated box made to contain the two stone tablets given to Moses. On its lid were two angels; and God dwelt in the space enclosed by their outstretched wings.

Combining these images leads us to say that Jesus was purely God again, for our sins had distilled from his body at the moment of his resurrection.

We see the outworking of these same miracles as we immerse ourselves in our own Holy Week: the atonement worked. The 'Lamb of God' has taken away our sins.

## G BARLOW & SONS LTD

### FUNERAL DIRECTORS

Established 1868

Union Street West, Oldham, OL8 1DQ

**Telephone (0161) 624 4301**

**24 hours**

*Personal attention*

*Private Chapel of Rest*

*Funerals completely Furnished*

*Pre-payment plans available*

An independent family business

God of glory, by the raising of your Son  
you have broken the chains of death and hell:  
fill your Church with faith and hope;  
for a new day has dawned and the way to life stands open in our  
Saviour Jesus Christ.

# Easter Day

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

## WORDSEARCH

BIBLE STORIES AND EVENTS OCCURRING IN APRIL: ATONEMENT. EASTER, GOOD, FRIDAY, MAUNDY THURSDAY, PALM SUNDAY, LOW SUNDAY

SAINTS AND SPECIAL PEOPLE WE REMEMBER IN APRIL: AMBROSE, ANSELM, GEORGE, RICHARD OF CHICHESTER, MARK, WILLIAM LAW

## Curate's Corner

Since Ash Wednesday, I've been following a personal Lent course within the pages of a new book entitled *Celtic Lent: 40 days of devotions to Easter* by David Cole. I'm learning about the beliefs and lives of those early Celtic Saints of Britain and Ireland who first came to our shores with the gospel, and established monasticism based on the lives of the early Desert Fathers and Mothers. The initial readings have focussed on 'martyr-dom' and the Celtic notion of three different types: white, green (or blue) and red.

As you might guess, 'red' martyrdom involves giving one's physical life up to death for the sake of Christ and is something we are highly unlikely to be called on to do in this country and in this age. 'White' martyrdom is more akin to what we might try to do, in token, by giving up something we enjoy for Lent. 'Green' martyrdom can also be practiced during Lent by resolving to fast, study and pray more regularly.

Both white and green martyrdom, the book suggests (and encourages us to consider), can become life-long features of a disciplined approach and commitment to having Christ at the very centre of our lives.

All monastic traditions practice white and green martyrdom in the formulation of a 'Rule, a series of ... well ... rules, on how a life of work, study and prayer is to be ordered within a community. But we don't have to be members of a religious order to devise our own personal Rule ... and, of course, I would encourage you to do so.

Perhaps your Rule might include a regular daily commitment to be still for just 10-15 minutes (or a bit longer if this is already part of your routine) just to talk ... or listen ... to God, and/or read a short Bible passage or psalm. You might consider fasting from dawn to dusk (if that's possible for you) or from meat/fish one day a week or month to remind yourself of those who have less than you, or the challenges we all face from climate change. You could resolve to attend a 'quiet day' or a short spiritual retreat. You might volunteer some time or your 'talents' at church or in the local community ... or commit to donating a little more to church or charity to help further the work of the Kingdom.

If you decide to try ... and, like the 'widow's mite' (Mark 12:41-44, Luke 21:1-4), every little *does* help ... it's probably best to keep it simple at first and see how it goes. Needless to say, you can always turn to myself or Paul for any advice, encouragement and support in establishing a form of 'Celtic martyrdom' of your own devising. Good luck! ... or ádh mó! (as the Irish say in Gaelic!)

Revd Jane

**Tel: 0161 624 3174**

All our breads, pies & cakes are  
traditionally homemade &  
homebaked in our very  
own bakery

So Fresh... So Tasty... So...  
**VILLAGE  
MANOR  
Bakery**

499-501 Huddersfield  
road OL4 2JG

**FREE**

**Deliveries**  
On orders  
over £8

**CELEBRATION  
CAKES &  
CATERING FOR  
ALL EVENTS**

Waffles  
Crepes  
Shakes  
Smoothies  
Hot & Cold drinks  
Ice Cream  
Cookie Dough  
Sundaes

Eat in  
or  
take away

Tel: 07747 441785  
Email: sweetandsmooth@outlook.com  
499 - 501 Huddersfield Road  
OL4 2JG



# NICK ACTON

## Painter and decorator

Specialising in

- Interior and exterior painting and decorating
- Coving, dado, and picture-rail fitting
- Hanging all types of wall covering
- Domestic, commercial, industrial



**Home: (0161) 287 3290 Mobile: (07811) 343 963**  
**50 Cobden Street, Waterhead, Oldham OL4 2HU**

Competitive rates • Free quotations • All work is guaranteed  
Fully qualified • 25-year's experience • CSCS registered

# ANTONY BOOTH

## PLASTERING CONTRACTORS LIMITED

**Domestic and Commercial  
Plastering and Re-rendering**

**Clean quality : craftsmanship**

(07721) 527 850 (daytime)  
(0161) 678 1078 (evening)

abp1968@hotmail.co.uk  
www.aboothplastering.com

**£5**

including  
supper

Holy  
**Trinity**  
WATERHEAD

# Quiz

**Saturday 27 April @ 7:00 for 7:30 pm**

**Includes cheese and wine supper**

**BUTTERWORTH'S  
NEWSAGESNT**  
380 Huddersfield Road  
Waterhead OL4 2EX  
(0161) 624 6190

Home deliveries

Money for accounts  
collected

Waterhead area  
Greenacres area

PAPERS

MAGAZINES

SWEETS

CIGARETTES

Shop facing  
Sharples Hall Street

ZIG  
ZAG

T: 0161 620 9162

497 Huddersfield Road  
Waterhead, Oldham  
OL4 2JG

**FREE MEASURE • FREE QUOTATION • FREE FITTING**



**Harmony BLINDS (Oldham) Ltd**

- ✓ Family Run Business
- ✓ Friendly & Reliable
- ✓ Made to measure on all types of blinds
- ✓ All Blinds Guaranteed
- ✓ Large Choice of Fabrics

**Call: 0161 626 9688**

Visit our new showroom at Unit 39, The Acorn Centre, Barry Street, Oldham, OL1 3NE

OPEN: Mon – Fri 9.30 - 5.00pm Saturday 09.00 – 1.00pm

[www.harmonyblindsoldham.co.uk](http://www.harmonyblindsoldham.co.uk)

Waterhead Parish Hall (OL4 2JH)

Holy  
**Trinity**  
WATERHEAD

# Music for May

**Saturday 11 May at 7:30 pm**

**Tame Valley Brass Ensemble**

**holy trinity waterhead.co.uk (07982) 232 014**

**£5**

Including  
supper

We are fortunate to have an established population of greater spotted woodpeckers in our area, their drumming signalling increasing day-length and rising temperatures. The other day I could hear percussive bursts coming from a mature tree but was quite unable to see the bird. To make sure that I had the

right tree I pressed my ear to the trunk to appreciate the full resonance but still could

not see anything. I watched one drumming a short time later.

Thankfully, greater spotted woodpeckers are fairly common in our region and are easily recognised by their black and white plumage with flashes of bright red. One of the best sightings I have had occurred when one of them was competing with a green woodpecker for possession of a hole in a tree. A lot of aggressive fluttering about went on for some time. In recent years the green has been absent from Strinesdale but I live in hope that their wonderful laughing call will once again echo round the reservoirs.

14 March 2019. This morning I observed a goldcrest working with industrious energy on the low branches of an oak growing a few feet from the footpath. When the possibilities of the oak had been exhausted the bird transferred to a moss-covered stone wall to continue the probing search for insects. The goldcrest's minute size and fast movements, together with a yellow

head-stripe, make them delightful and distinctive and I can recall the first time I noticed the species many years ago. At the time I was employed as a furniture remover's mate and as we pulled onto a Welsh lay-by I could see from the elevated cab of the van a number of tiny birds whizzing backwards and forwards on some bare trees like multiple shuttles on a loom.

There is something

admirable about mosses during the grey winter period, bringing vibrant greens to woodland and old walls. My favourite is the soft and fern-like common tamarind moss, often found on rotting wood. (The **Woodland Trust** website is an excellent reference source). The extensive use of moss in important Japanese gardens has been well documented and I was interested to learn that it features in the Japanese national anthem, 'May your world go on for thousands of years, until pebbles merge into one giant rock and are covered with moss'.



Goldcrest

## Waterhead Parish Centre



Any event, celebration, party

Friendly staff • New heating and toilets •

Projector and screen • Fully licensed

Call Naomi Parkes on (07907) 410 606

[www.holytrinitywaterhead.co.uk](http://www.holytrinitywaterhead.co.uk)

The word ‘pieta’ literally means ‘pity’. It inspires a form of art that shows Jesus’ mother Mary weeping over her son’s dead body. The artwork can be sculptured, like Michelangelo’s well known marble in the Vatican. But the image can be represented using any medium.

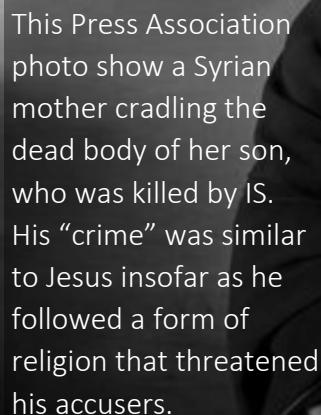
The pieta image usually invites us to look at the Crucifixion from Mary’s point of view. It’s her personal tragedy. She has nursed Jesus from birth till now, and has just witnessed the full horror of her son being tortured to death. His killing was a politically motivated and choreographed execution. She has seen all of it, knew its purpose and foresaw its end, and she was wholly powerless to stop it.

Our modern era likes to medicalise stress. We talk of post-traumatic stress disorder (PSTD). The pieta image seeks to explore the effect of that PSTD on Mary and her soul.

Some depictions prefer a highly representative image, to help us see the effect on Mary. Sometimes the image is more abstract to give us a bit of leeway as we explore the effect, and maybe move some of the emotional cost from Mary on to ourselves. It also helps us pray for all who, like the mother in the picture below, suffer the pain of losing a loved one in a violent and terrible way..

Jesus and his family understand our deepest suffering because they have experienced it too.

# Pietà



This Press Association photo show a Syrian mother cradling the dead body of her son, who was killed by IS. His “crime” was similar to Jesus insofar as he followed a form of religion that threatened his accusers.

Christians today use the word ‘Alleluia’ to express an overflow of thanksgiving, joy, praise, and triumph. The word is interchangeable with ‘Hallelujah’. Both translate the Hebrew phrase, ‘praise the Lord’.

Alleluia is generally used it in its original form (preserved and not translated) and has been since the very earliest times. For example, the Liturgy of St Mark, which is the most ancient of all the preserved of the world’s liturgies, instructs the person preaching to ‘Follow the “Let us pray” with “the Prologue of the Alleluia”.’ Here, the ‘Prologue of the Alleluia’ is a prayer or verse sung by the choir to introduce readings from the Gospel.

We say ‘Alleluia’ as we read the Gospel because it tells us about Jesus and his mighty deeds of grace and forgiveness. Indeed, the word ‘Gospel’ means literally ‘The Good news’.

And we say ‘Alleluia’ and ‘Hallelujah’ every day of Easter. For example, on the Sundays of Easter, we repeatedly say, ‘Alleluia, Christ is Risen! By this, we are not merely offering a simple word of praise. We are offering God praise and worship.

So when you say Alleluia with your lips, tell your soul to say ‘Yippee!’

# Alleluia!

**Christ the Lord is risen today, Alleluia!  
Sons of men and angels say. Alleluia!  
Raise your joys and triumphs high.  
Alleluia!  
Sing, ye heavens, and earth reply:  
Alleluia!**  
Charles Wesley

# Church diary

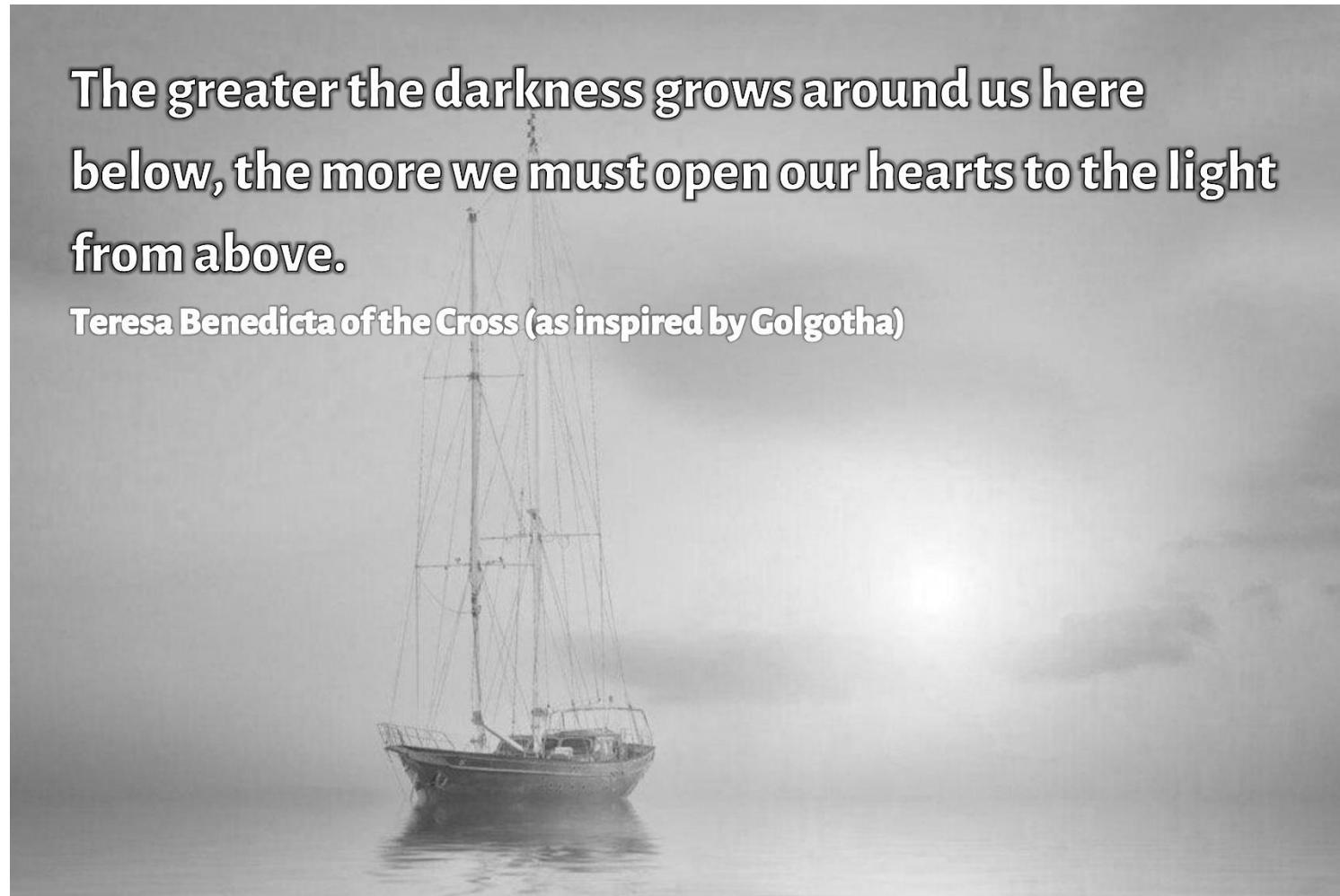
## April 2019

- Monday 1    10:00 am: **Community Café** at St Barnabas.
- Tuesday 2    7:30 pm: **Home group** at 4 Heather Close.
- Weds 3    9:00–10:00 am: **Scripture breakfast** at St Barnabas.  
7:00 pm: **Family-friendly Communion**.
- Thurs 5    9:30 am: **Morning prayer** in the Vestry.
- Sunday 7    11:00 am: Service for **Passion Sunday**.
- Monday 8    10:00 am: **Community Café** at St Barnabas.
- Weds 11    9:00–10:00 am: **Scripture breakfast** at St Barnabas.  
7:00 pm: **Family-friendly Communion**.
- Thurs 12    9:30 am: **Morning prayer** in the Vestry.
- Sunday 14    11:00 am: Service for **Palm Sunday**,  
12:00 noon: the **APCM**, followed by a faith lunch.
- Monday 15    10:00 am: **Community Café** at St Barnabas Church.  
7:00 pm: **Compline** in the Church.
- Tuesday 16    7:00 pm: **The Holiest Week**: special service for Churches Together in East Oldham, in St Barnabas Church.
- Weds 17    9:00–10:00 am: **Scripture breakfast** at St Barnabas.  
7:00 pm: **Family-friendly Communion** for Holy Week.

- Thurs 18    9:30 am: **Morning prayer** in the Vestry.  
7:00 pm: service for **Maundy Thursday** in the Church, followed by a vigil in the Church till midnight.
- Friday 19    11:00 am: service for **Good Friday**.  
12: noon—3:00 pm: **Meditations at the Cross** at St Barnabas.
- Sunday 24    11:00 am: Joyful Eucharist for **Easter Day**.
- Monday 25    NO **Community Café** at St Barnabas Church.
- Weds 27    9:00–10:00 am: **Scripture breakfast** at St Barnabas.  
7:00 pm: **Family-friendly Communion**.
- Thurs 28    9:30 am: **Morning prayer** in the Vestry.

**The greater the darkness grows around us here below, the more we must open our hearts to the light from above.**

**Teresa Benedicta of the Cross (as inspired by Golgotha)**





# T. Collins & Son Ltd

(Independent Funeral Director)



*24 Hour Dignified Personal  
Attention Throughout The Difficult  
Time of Bereavement*



*Pre-paid Funeral Plans Available*



Contact Mr. Darren M. Clark  
for more details

151/153 St John Street . Lees . Oldham

**Tel: 0161 624 1023**