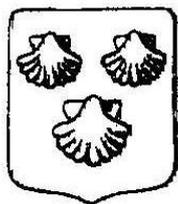


16/20



This week at the Church of
St James the Greater
Leicester

www.stjamesthegreater.org.uk
office@stjamesthegreater.org.uk



19 APRIL 2020 – 2ND SUNDAY OF EASTER

Prayer for the Week

Almighty Father,
you have given your only Son to die for our sins
and to rise again for our justification:
grant us so to put away the leaven of malice and wickedness
that we may always serve you
in pureness of living and truth;
through the merits of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Our Prayers are asked for:

The healthcare professionals working around the clock to care for us, those producing and selling food and other essentials, the delivery services that allow us to remain safe at home, our teachers who are looking after keyworker children and the most vulnerable and our councils and politicians who are working to bring us through these unprecedented times.

All prevented from worshipping with us, remembering this week

John Goadby : David Muddimer : Conceição Fernandes

Unwell

Ann Blanchard : Anthony & Barbara Green : Owen Shepherd
Hilary Simpson (now home) : Josephine Chizema (Tony's mother)
and those with Coronavirus symptoms from our community and beyond.

Rest in Peace

Anne Craig

ALL CHURCHES ARE CLOSED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE We will reopen as soon as permitted by the Government – details will be posted on our website, Facebook page and on the porch noticeboard once this occurs.

Readings for the week

Acts 2.14a,22-32

But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, “Men of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say.

²² “You that are Israelites,^[a] listen to what I have to say: Jesus of Nazareth,^[b] a man attested to you by God with deeds of power, wonders, and signs that God did through him among you, as you yourselves know—²³ this man, handed over to you according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of those outside the law. ²⁴ But God raised him up, having freed him from death,^[c] because it was impossible for him to be held in its power. ²⁵ For David says concerning him,

‘I saw the Lord always before me,
for he is at my right hand so that I will not be shaken;
²⁶ therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced;
moreover my flesh will live in hope.

²⁷ For you will not abandon my soul to Hades,
or let your Holy One experience corruption.

²⁸ You have made known to me the ways of life;
you will make me full of gladness with your presence.’

²⁹ “Fellow Israelites,^[d] I may say to you confidently of our ancestor David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. ³⁰ Since he was a prophet, he knew that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would put one of his descendants on his throne. ³¹ Foreseeing this, David^[e] spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah,^[f] saying,

‘He was not abandoned to Hades,
nor did his flesh experience corruption.’

³² This Jesus God raised up, and of that all of us are witnesses.

John 20.19-31

Jesus Appears to the Disciples

¹⁹ When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” ²⁰ After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw

the Lord. ²¹ Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." ²² When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³ If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

Jesus and Thomas

²⁴ But Thomas (who was called the Twin^[a]), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵ So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

²⁶ A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁷ Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." ²⁸ Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" ²⁹ Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

The Purpose of This Book

³⁰ Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. ³¹ But these are written so that you may come to believe^[b] that Jesus is the Messiah,^[c] the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

The Vicar Writes ...

In the Gospel this week we hear again the familiar story of "Doubting Thomas". I always feel sorry for Thomas, forever known for this one failing (if failing it is). We don't talk about "Denying Peter", or forever label our own patron as "Overly ambitious James". We owe a lot to the doubt of Thomas - his insistence on the physical reminds us that the resurrection and its consequences are not the appearance of a ghost or spirit, not merely a mental or spiritual manifestation, but something that, however mysteriously, impacts the real, tangible world. At the moment, the most basic health measures deny us that touch, but nonetheless we are reminded that the fulness of the resurrection life calls us to touch others' lives, not merely in our thoughts and prayers, but with our resources and actions, bringing that freedom from fear, peace, and liberation.

Contacting the Team

You may not be physically seeing us but we are still working!

Andrew can be contacted by email revdaquigley@gmail.com or on 0116 254 4113

The Church Office can be contacted by email office@stjamesthegreater.org.uk or by calling 07749 227109 (weekdays only please unless an emergency)

Further email details are on our website www.stjamesthegreater.org.uk

Our Facebook page is being updated most days

<http://www.facebook.com/st-james-the-greater-100660021339625>

Resources for Home Worship

Broadcast Media

Daily Service	Mon-Fri at 9.45am	Radio 4 LW
Choral Evensong	Wed at 3.30pm & Sun at 3pm	Radio 3
Sunday Worship	Sun at 8.10am	Radio 4
Morning Worship	Sun – check schedule for time	BBC I
Songs of Praise	Sun – check schedule for time	BBC I

Online

www.churchofengland.org

www.leicestercathedral.org

Many churches and cathedrals have put services online – let us know your favourites so we can share next week.

KEEPING IN TOUCH This bulletin will be emailed every week if possible - if you do not have access to the internet please ask a relative or friend to contact the Church Office to be included. ***We are unable to print until Government restrictions are eased, if you are able to share news with those who do not have internet, they will be most grateful.***

HELP FOR PEOPLE SELF-ISOLATING We have volunteers who have offered to help members with shopping or other essentials who have nobody else to help them and are not able to get online shopping. ***Please contact the Church Office for further details of this and other neighbourhood schemes being established.***

ARTICLES If you would like to share what you are doing during your isolation, perhaps a recipe to use those tins we have all stockpiled or a poem/joke to brighten our day, please email to office@stjamesthegreater.org.uk by Wednesday midday for inclusion.

GIVING TO ST JAMES We know that many of you will see your income reduced and other hardships so we are most grateful to all those who have already pledged to continue their giving through this difficult time. ***If you normally give through gift aid envelopes, stewardship envelopes or cash on the plate, please contact the Church Office if you are able to switch to a standing order, we also can accept cheques through the post.***

VIRTUAL EVENSONG A huge thank you to the choir and in particular Andy Judge for putting together the virtual Evensong for Easter Day on YouTube – a link can be found to it from our website. Over 1000 had watched so far!

THE CAT SAT ON THE MAT *sent by Phil Jones*

What would the church conclude if the statement “The cat sat on the mat” was found in the Bible?

The liberal theologians would point out that such a passage did not of course, mean that the cat literally sat on the mat. Also, cat and mat had different meanings in those days from today, and anyway, the text should be interpreted according to the customs and practices of the period.

This would lead to an immediate backlash from the Evangelicals. They would make it an essential condition of faith to believe that a real physical, living cat, being a domestic pet of the species *Felix Domesticus*, and having a whiskered head, a furry body, four legs and a tail, did physically place its whole body on a floor covering, designed for that purpose, and which is on the floor but not of the floor. The expression “on the floor but not of the floor” would be explained in a leaflet.

Meanwhile, the Roman Catholics would have developed the Feast of the Sedentation of the Blessed Cat. This would teach that the cat was white, and majestically reclined on a mat of gold thread before its assumption to the Great Cat Basket of Heaven. This is commemorated by singing the ‘Magnificat’ and ‘Felix namque’, lighting three candles, and ringing a bell five times.

This would cause a schism with the Orthodox Church, which believes tradition requires Holy Cats Day [as it is colloquially known] be marked by lighting SIX candles and ringing the bell FOUR times, this would partly be resolved by the Cuckoo Land Declaration recognising the traditional validity of each.

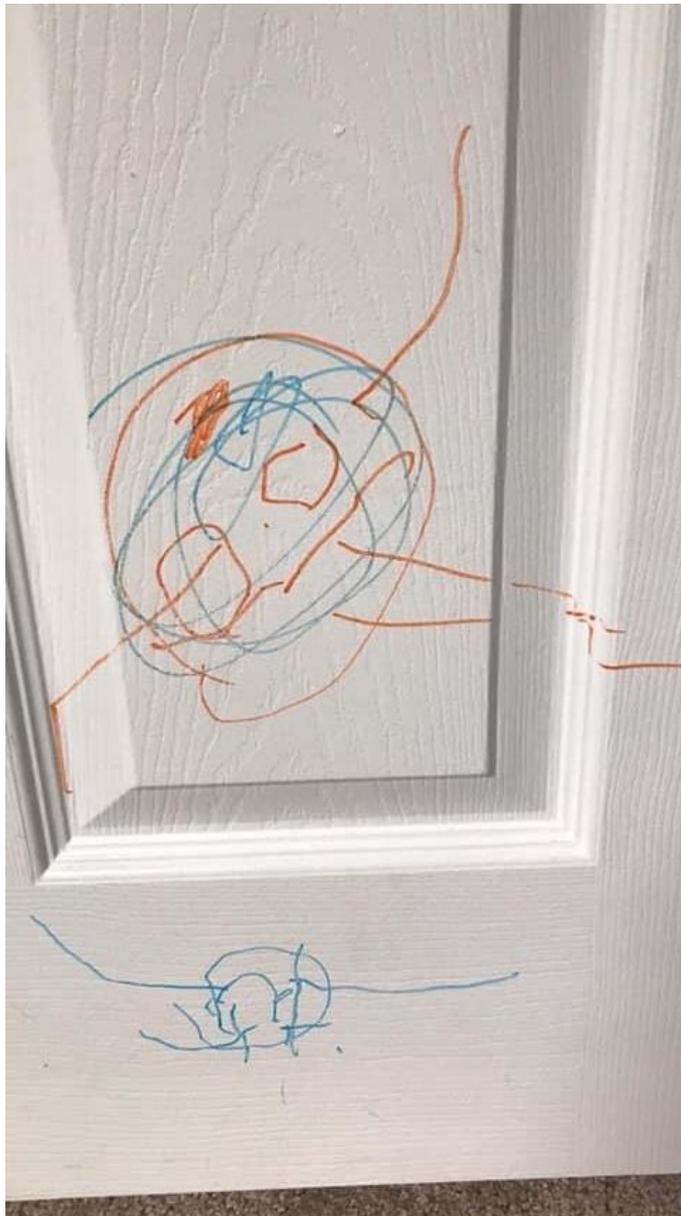
Eventually, the House of Bishops would issue a statement on the Doctrine of the Feline Sedentation. It would explain that traditionally the text describes a domestic feline quadruped superjacent to an unattached covering on a fundamental surface. For determining its salvific and eschatological significations, we follow the heuristic analytical principles adopted in dealing with the Canine Fenestration Question [How much is that doggie in the window?] and the Affirmative Musaceous Paradox

[Yes, we have no bananas]. And so on, for another 210 pages. The General Synod would then commend this report as helpful resource material for clergy to explain to the man in the pew the difficult doctrine of 'the cat sat on the mat.'

That was very good but how is this for a corollary. Replacement theology will tell you that the cat has been replaced by a dog. the cat stole the mat from the canine ite. Then came the cat-astrophe so now the owner of the mat is a dog-mat-ic.

FOR ART LOVERS

This made me laugh *stolen by Annabel Cowley from a Facebook post.*



Wrestlers in Action, 2020

Eli Williams (b. 2016)

Crayola marker on wooden closet door.

Williams, a fledgling artist with a reputation for drawing it like he sees it, has honed a style that hearkens back to the Realism movement.

In the latest addition to Williams' *Quarantine* series, the subject is WWE wrestlers in action. Williams rejects Romantic conventions and delivers the raw emotion of wrestlers Rey Mysterio and Jeff Hardy in the ring.

Critics agree that *Wrestlers in Action* is a thought-provoking composition that challenges the viewer to reflect on their own emotions stemming from being a prisoner in their own home during a toilet paper shortage.

Gifted to the artist's parents, 2020.

Weekly Quiz

A picture quiz this week from the Jackson's. Can you name the biscuit from the crumbs? Enjoy!



1.



2.



3.



4.



5.



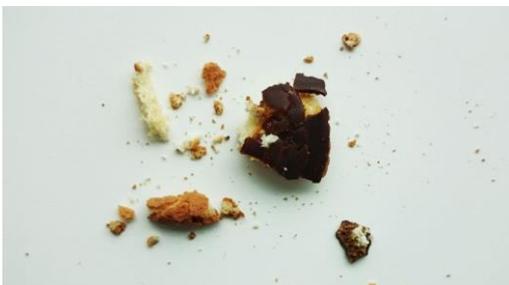
6.



7.



8.



9.



10.

Last week's quiz answers:

- 1.) MADRID
- 2.) BRAZIL
- 3.) JESUS (Isa = Jesus, ibn Maryam = son of Mary. Islam regards Jesus as a prophet of God second only to Mohammed.)
- 4.) AMRITSAR, INDIA
- 5.) DONCASTER
- 6.) 1984
- 7.) MYANMAR
- 8.) Sirimavo Bandaranaike SRI LANKA / Golda Meir ISRAEL / Isabel Peron ARGENTINA / Mary MacAleese IRELAND.
- 9.) 116 YEARS
- 10.) NOBEL PRIZE WINNERS Marie Curie PHYSICS / Malala Yousafzai PEACE / Toni Morrison LITERATURE / Mairead Corrigan PEACE.