

A few words from the Vicar

*Christ is risen from the dead,
By death He conquered death,
And to those in the graves
He granted life!*

The Paschal troparion
(an Eastern Orthodox Hymn sung at Easter)



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So what's Easter all about for you then?
Is it about Hot Cross Buns, Easter Eggs and a couple of days off work?

Is it the opportunity for some quality time with the family, a walk in the warm Spring sunshine (hopefully!) and the delight of seeing the faces of your little ones smeared with chocolate? Cute or what?

And for those serious chocoholics out there, does Easter mark the resumption of hostilities against that secret supply of chocolate you stashed away during Lent?

Well, there's nothing wrong with any of that, is there? In fact, come Easter Sunday, I'm looking forward to the odd piece of chocolate egg myself. What's more I've been eating Hot Cross Buns since February courtesy of a BOGOF promotion at a supermarket I use.

But, actually, Easter is a lot more important than any of this. It's a lot more important than a couple of days off work; it's a lot more important than some BOGOF Hot Cross Buns; and it's a lot more important than a few Easter Eggs.

Easter is even more important than life and death! For at Easter we remember and celebrate the most important event in the whole of human history; the death and resurrection of Our Lord Jesus Christ.

It is at Easter when we especially remember that Jesus loves each and every one of us so much that allowed Himself to be nailed to a cross and died to pay the eternal penalty for our sin.

It is at Easter that we especially remember that in His love for us Jesus conquered death and rose from His grave on that first Easter Sunday.

And it is at Easter that we celebrate the fact that it is through Jesus' death and resurrection that He unlocked the gates of Heaven and that we, with our sins forgiven, can look forward to spending an eternity with our loving God.

So come and celebrate with us at Christ Church on Easter Sunday. Come and join with us too as we prepare for Easter Sunday: join us as we journey through the remainder of Lent and through Holy Week; and join with us on Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday and Good Friday.

Have a good Easter!

Every Blessing

Dave