

MAGAZINE

Easter 2023

God save the King!

The coronation of King Charles III at Westminster Abbey reflects a new era of monarchy following the 70-year reign of Queen Elizabeth II.

The last time Britain held a coronation ceremony was on a very rainy 2 June 1953. The 27-year-old Queen Elizabeth was crowned sixteen months after she had become queen. Four-year old Prince Charles received a special handwritten invitation to the spectacle. In his mind, for most of his life, King Charles III has been preparing for coronation. No British prince has ever waited longer. The moment the Queen died, the throne passed immediately and without ceremony to the heir, Charles, the former Prince of Wales. But the symbolic high point of the accession will be the coronation on 6 May 2023, when Charles is formally crowned. Pageantry, tradition, religion and ceremony combine to create a spectacular occasion.



Mark Tarrant, CC BY 4.0

For over 950 years, coronations have been held in Westminster Abbey – William the Conqueror being the first monarch to be crowned there in 1066; whilst Charles will be the fortieth. Alongside him will be Camilla, Queen Consort. They will be

crowned and anointed with oil, having both travelled there in the magnificent Gold State Coach.

The Symbolism

Two crowns will be used by the monarch. At the climax of the ceremony, which is presided over by the Archbishop of Canterbury, the king will sit on King Edward's Chair, following the pattern of almost every monarch since the fourteenth century. St. Edward's Crown, hand-crafted in solid gold with a cross at its centre, will be placed on Charles' head. This is the only time that the crown, dating from 1661, is worn by the monarch (not least because it weighs a hefty 2.23kg – almost 5lbs).



St. Edward's Crown, Sir Robert Viner

The Imperial State Crown is the 'working crown' used for state openings of Parliament. Weighing less than half that of St Edward's, this crown is adorned with 2,868 diamonds, as well as rubies, pearls, emeralds and sapphires. King Charles will hold two sceptres. The first is the Sovereign's Sceptre, a threefoot-long golden staff based on a shepherd's crook, with a cross on top symbolising the power of kingship under God's own rule.

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WHO? We are a Bible believing, evangelical church. We hold a church service every Sunday morning where we seek to explain God's word, the Bible, in a careful, warm and relevant way, and give the Bible's answers to contemporary questions of life.

WHEN? We meet every Sunday in Lakeview Village Hall from 10.30 to 11.30am. We are friendly and enjoy a cuppa, cake and a chat after church together.



MORE INFO? Please contact us for information about our services word@wixams.org.uk / 07879 716958
Facebook: Christ the Word Wixams
www.christthewordwixams.org.uk



OTHER EVENTS We also run Wixams Sunday Club, Ignite, Ladies' Bible Study, Midweek Bible studies, Sunday Evening meeting in a home and an Easter Holiday Bible club.




Wixams Sunday Club
for children aged 4-10yrs
3pm to 4pm
every Sunday term time
Lakeview Village Hall



IGNITE
A friendly group for those in year 6 and above where we have fun, games, food and explore the Bible together.
EVERY TUESDAY (TERM TIME)
6.30 — 7.30pm @
LAKEVIEW VILLAGE HALL
Contact Chris & Becca 07808079383
www.christthewordwixams.org.uk

Games, Questions, Food, Quizzes, Exploring the Bible



Bible studies
We meet on Thursday evenings at 8pm to look together at what the Bible has to teach us.

We also run a Holiday Bible Club every year for children.

Look up our website using the QR code.




Join us in Egypt with
Joseph! Holiday Club
Free
Easter holidays
Mon3, Tue4, Wed5 April
10am-12 Lakeview Village Hall
All children welcome
aged 4-10yrs

IGNITE
Mon3, Tue4, Wed5 April
2pm-4pm, Lakeview Village Hall all young people in years 6,7,8,9 welcome

MY LIFE CHANGING STORY ~ Anne

Every summer my family visited Felpham, a small village on the coast near Bognor Regis in Sussex to spend two weeks with my grandparents.

Every day was a beach day; we would go early in the morning and give our parents a break by joining in games run by a church group called Scripture Union. They ran an afternoon programme too, of quizzes, singing, competitions and Bible stories.

One evening they held a barbeque with a speaker. I was about ten years old, but I remember vividly how he spoke how Jesus Christ had come to die to pay the penalty for my sins (the wrong I had done). It made an impression on me that I never forgot. As a family we did not go to church, so I didn't think much more about Christianity.

Although, when I was still young an aunt arranged for me to catch buses to Bedford town centre with my brothers where she would meet us and take us to a Sunday School.

I was very interested in sport. When I was old enough I went to a local youth club in order to play in their netball team and through teenage years loved playing in the school and county teams. This led me to eventually train as a teacher of Physical Education.

When I was 17yrs my aunt invited me to hear a speaker called Dick Saunders, at the Bedford Corn Exchange. I didn't promise anything, but turned up later in the week. He spoke from Psalm 139 in the Bible which said "*O Lord you have searched me and known me! You*

understand my thoughts afar off, and are acquainted with all my ways ... where can I flee from your presence?" I realised I could never run away from God; he knew all about me, nothing was hidden from him!

I went home to my room, knelt down, and told God that I was sorry for my sins. I wanted him to forgive me, cleanse me and to dwell in my life and help me follow him as my Lord and Saviour.

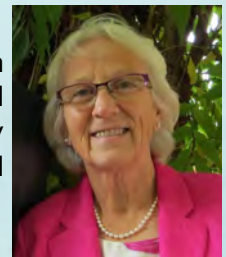
When I got up, I knew I had changed. 'Old things' had passed away. I changed in the places I wanted to go. I told my parents I wanted to go to church and I began to read the Bible every day. I began to understand what it really meant to follow God and live a life pleasing to him.

Life did not suddenly get easy. My father told me not to talk about my faith. Then a month after starting Teacher Training College, on my first visit home, my dad had a stroke and died. Some people thought this would rock my faith, but I can honestly say, it was God who helped me through that time. As it says in Psalm 139 "*your right hand shall hold me*".

I have been married now for over 42 years to Alan and have four children and three grandchildren.

Looking back over my life, as a teacher, a wife, a mother and grandmother, I can honestly say that God has always proved himself to be faithful.

Anne



James Pettis, Unsplash CC BY-SA 2.0

TASTY TREATS - Simnel Cake

Have you ever made a traditional Easter Simnel cake? Why not have a go at baking this tasty treat! Scan the QR code to find a fantastic recipe.



Original recipe by Cassie Best, BBC Good Food

God save the King!

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The second is called the Rod of Equity and Mercy, to remind the new sovereign to show compassion and kindness to his people. The king will be given the Sovereign's Orb, a hollow golden sphere with a cross at its top. The orb is a reminder that above this new king reigns a greater King, whose kingdom covers the entire globe. The golden Coronation Ring, inlaid with diamonds, rubies and sapphires for the colours of England and Scotland, is worn by the monarch to show his 'marriage' to the nation.



Wikimedia Commons

The Service

The coronation oath will be taken in front of Heads of State and representatives of the Houses of Parliament and the Church of England, as well as the watching world, as Charles III is confirmed Head of the Commonwealth – an association of 56 independent countries and 2.5 billion people. For fourteen of these countries, as well as the UK, the king is Head of State. Music, readings and the ritual of anointing the new monarch, using oils of orange flowers, roses, cinnamon, musk and ambergris, are each part of the elaborate ceremony.

The Song

'God save our gracious King!
Long live our noble King!
God save the King...'

Finally, the gathered congregation will sing the National Anthem, dating back to 1745. It speaks of two kings: our new king, Charles III, and Almighty God, the King of kings. In many ways our monarch is a rock to the nation, but he, like everyone else, needs his own Rock, on whom he can always rely. Hence the words: 'God save the King'. Those words point to two kingdoms the one over which King Charles reigns, and the one under which he serves. These two kingdoms are very different. We do not yet know the length of King Charles' reign, but this second kingdom will never end.



© Stephen Hawley/MOD, OCLC, V.I. 0001, V.I. 0, via Wikimedia Commons

During the coronation ceremony in 1953, the queen was presented with a Bible with

the words: Our gracious Queen: to keep your Majesty ever mindful of the law and the Gospel of God as the Rule for the whole life and government of Christian Princes, we present you with this Book, the most valuable thing that this world affords. Here is Wisdom; This is the royal Law; These are the lively Oracles of God.

The Saviour King

Two thousand years ago, a King came into our world. God, clothed in humanity, came to the people whom He had created. At His birth Jesus startled the local ruler, though King Herod need not have panicked. Jesus had not come as a military power. Instead, His reign was going to be marked by different priorities. He said, 'I came not to be served, but to serve and to give My life as a ransom for many.' The crown He wore was made of thorns. When He died everyone forsook Him. Crucified, Jesus was carrying on Himself the sin and rebellion of the world. He was paying the penalty for the guilt of His citizens, that we might be set free. He had come to establish a different kind of kingdom.

His body did not lie in state; He was buried in a borrowed garden tomb. But He did something that no earthly monarch can do: three days later He rose from the dead, and is now exalted in heaven. His throne lasts for ever. He rules in goodness and righteousness. Jesus Christ never abuses His power but does what is right to all, guiding each person who turns to Him. He forgives and receives anyone who is willing to renounce their own way and trust in Him as Lord and Saviour. The Bible says there will come a day when every knee will bow before King Jesus. Every believer and nonbeliever will acknowledge Him. He is the King of kings.

Those in the Commonwealth are citizens over whom King Charles reigns, but Jesus invites people from every nation who 'are weary and heavy laden' to come to Him and belong in the kingdom of heaven. As well as singing 'God save the King', you and I need to pray 'God save me!' God promises to hear and answer those who truly ask for forgiveness. To know that we are citizens of the kingdom of heaven is the most assuring thing of all.

With kind permission, by Roger Carswell and Alan Marsden.
To find out more about Jesus Christ please visit:
thechristiananswer.org

PEOPLE WHO CHANGED THE WORLD

Vishal Mangalwadi

"When a brilliant philosopher from India gives his version of the history of the West, we should listen." (Eric Metaxas, American author and speaker)

Vishal Mangalwadi is an international lecturer, social reformer, author of over 20 books and a leading Christian thinker of our age.

Born and raised in India, Mangalwadi studied philosophy at the University of Allahabad (1967-'69) and Indore (1971-'73), in Hindu ashrams, and at the L'Abri Fellowship in Switzerland.



Wikipedia CC BY-SA 4.0

In 1976 along with his wife Ruth, he founded a community in Madhya Pradesh to serve the rural poor in India and transform the caste-based feudal social system. In 1987, he initiated a national movement against the

revival of *sati* (the practice of burning widows on their husband's funeral pyre).

Mangalwadi's latest book is 'This Book Changed Everything: The Bible's Amazing Impact on Our World', 2019.

The Bible, Mangalwadi argues, empowered little people who challenged the might of great empires and turned tiny nations into economic superpowers. It delivered humankind from superstition and gave them the courage and confidence to reshape the world. It was the impetus for stable family life, law and order, basic freedoms, fair dealing in commerce, the work ethic, and nationhood.



Wikipedia CC BY-SA 4.0



<https://www.amazon.co.uk/This-Book-Changed-Everything-Amazing-ebook/dp/B07MJ9RV1C>



All are welcome to our Easter Service

Sunday 9th April, 10:30-11:30am
in Lakeview Village Hall, Wixams

Jesus' Resurrection and Hope

The service will be followed by
refreshments - Tea, coffee and cake.

christthewordwixams.org.uk



Explain The Empty Tomb!



Did Jesus really rise from the dead 2,000 years ago? Or is the life and teaching of Jesus a myth - just like the Easter Bunny?

One reason we know Jesus' resurrection is historical is that the tomb where he was buried was empty.

After Jesus' death, Peter said to the people of Jerusalem, "*God has raised this Jesus to life, and we are all witnesses to the fact.*"¹ In short - Jesus' tomb is a few metres away - check for yourselves!

Now the establishment hated Jesus and his followers. Hated them so much they beat them up and put them in prison - simply for saying that Jesus had risen from the dead. But more people believed.

The easiest way to discredit the Christians would be to produce the body of Jesus. That would shut them up! But why didn't they? The answer is they couldn't! Because the tomb of Jesus was empty.

For more details about the empty tomb see www.bethinking.org/did-jesus-rise-from-the-dead

¹The Bible - Acts 2v32



OUT AND ABOUT

'The Hills are Alive ...' Barton Hills

The Barton Hills are a fabulous place to stretch your legs and enjoy breathtaking panoramic views of Bedfordshire. The hills are part of the Chilterns and made of chalk. At the foot is a spring and stream in a wooded area - Barton Hills Nature Reserve. A place to enjoy wild flowers and red kites soaring over the hills. A great picnic spot.

There is a path just beyond St. Nicholas' church in Church Road. Ideal for children, dog walks and hiking.



John Armstrong, Martin CC BY-SA 2.0



Martin, geograph.org.uk

Barton-le-Clay is ten miles south from Wixams, on the A6. There is limited roadside parking in Church Road - MK45 4LA or Old Road - MK45 4LB, in Barton-le-Clay.

There is a fish and chip takeaway in Barton Village. Nearby, The Olde Watermill Shopping Village, MK45 4RF, accessed from the A6, also has places to eat.

www.oldewatermill.co.uk
bedfordshirewalks.co.uk/barton-hills-bedfordshire/





Games at the Ignite young people's group



Games for young children at the Holiday Club



Church bring and share lunch



Christ the Word stall at the Wixams Summer Fayre and Winter Wonderland



Our Sunday Morning Church service



Wixams Sunday Club



Refreshments after Church service

Summer Church BBQ



Ladies Christmas Craft Evening



Some of the team from the Holiday Club

WHY IS IT CALLED GOOD FRIDAY AND EASTER SUNDAY?

Good Friday commemorates the crucifixion of Jesus and his death 2,000 years ago in the Middle Eastern city of Jerusalem.

Usually life stories of famous people have a lot to say about their early life. Yet unusually, the eyewitness accounts in the Bible of Jesus' life concentrate on the last week of his life.

We have all heard about the stories Jesus told - such as the Good Samaritan and the Prodigal Son; they have become an everyday part of our language. We know Jesus went about doing good, feeding the 5,000, giving sight to the blind and was a friend of the least and the lost.

But did you realise that the main purpose of Jesus' life - even before he was born - was his humiliating death on a cross? It wasn't a mistake: It was God's plan!

Matthew's gospel records the Angel's words "you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins". Throughout Jesus' life he rebuked the greed, hypocrisy and deceit around him. But Jesus also spoke frankly about the thoughts in our own hearts: "for out of the

heart come evil thoughts, murder, adultery, sexual immorality, theft, false witness, slander" And Jesus went on to say most clearly "fear him which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell."

Jesus also made it clear that all the good we might do cannot save us! That is why Jesus, the perfect one, came as "the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!" Jesus bore the sins - of those who believe - in his body on the cross. He took their punishment instead. Forgiveness and eternal life is a gift to those who believe. And that is why it is called Good Friday.

Easter Sunday celebrates the resurrection of Jesus: he had risen from the dead, the tomb was empty. His followers had felt defeated, fearful and afraid. Now, to their utter amazement they knew Jesus was alive. They had the joy of sins forgiven, new life, peace and courage to follow Jesus Christ.

This Easter, why not pick up a Bible and read about Jesus' death and resurrection for yourself? Try Luke's gospel chapters 23 and 24.

REAL LIVES

TRANSFORMED BY JESUS

REAL LIVES
Saturdays @ 8pm
on YouTube



Real Lives

What's Up, Doc? - a Surgeon's Story



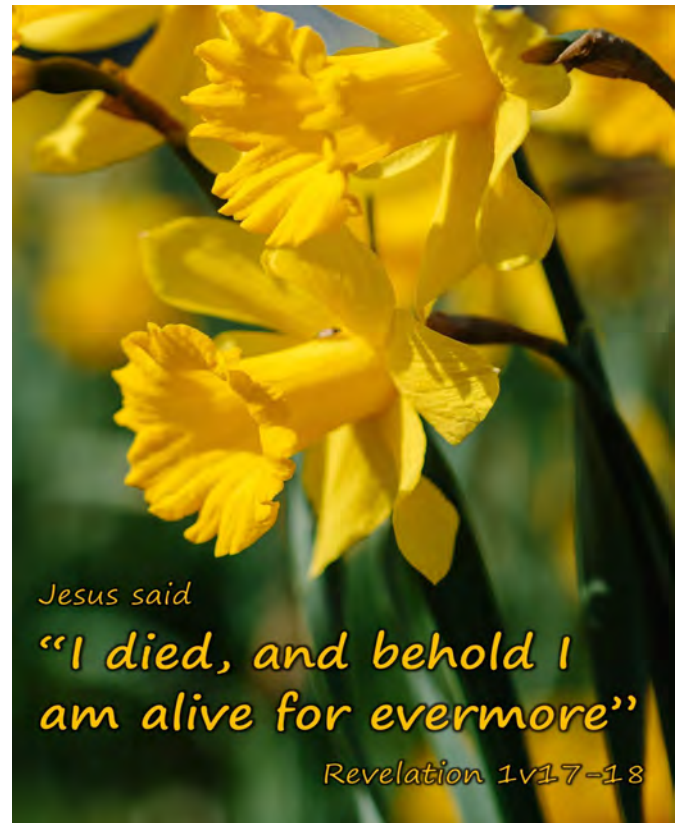
with **Riaz Mohammed**

MB ChB, FRCS (Glasgow),
FRCS (Edinburgh),
MD, MPHIL, CTth (ETS)

Real Lives

Why not find out how a surgeon's life was transformed by Jesus? Scan the QR code to watch

<https://reallives.net/>



Jesus said

"I died, and behold I am alive for evermore"

Revelation 1v17-18

Cut out and keep Bible verse



COMPETITION TIME ~ WORDSEARCH



FIND THE HIDDEN WORDS, PHOTOGRAPH YOUR ENTRY AND EMAIL TO word@wixams.org.uk FIRST THREE CORRECT ENTRIES DRAWN OUT OF A HAT ON MONDAY 10TH APRIL WILL RECEIVE A BOX OF CADBURY'S MILK TRAY!

BETRAYED

BELIEVE

CROSS

CHRIST

EMPTY

CRUCIFIED

HOPE

FORSAKEN

LIFE

KING

RESURRECTION

MARY

SOLDIERS

SINS

ALIVE

RISEN

FORGIVENESS

SPEAR

CROWN OF THORNS

STONE

JESUS

TOMB

MAGDALENE

BLOOD

E	V	I	L	A	P	F	E	E	R	K	S	N	H	S
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