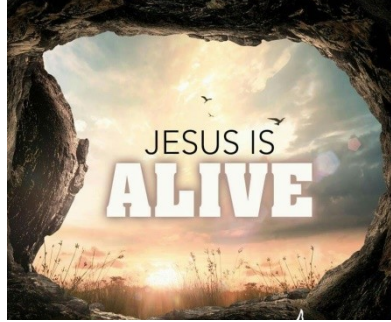
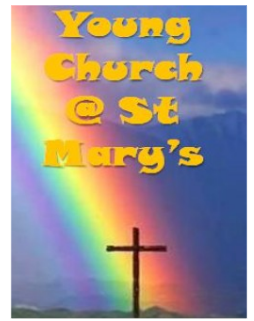


'An eye opening journey' – Young and Youth Church Sunday 3rd May 2020



1) Introduction:

Hi everyone at St Mary's young church, we hope you are all well and happy. We miss seeing your lovely faces, but be assured you are all in our thoughts and prayers.

So, the disciples had been excited as Jesus' ministry built up: they had come to expect that he would be the Messiah, the king they had waited for. They expected that he would establish a kingdom on earth! But then he was crucified. Their expression as they walked slowly over to Emmaus would have been sad: all that expectation, and so little to show for it – just the memory of a few miracles and some rules to live by. But then Jesus joined them and explained everything – and they understood! Jesus was the Messiah – he had established a kingdom: it looked different to the one they were expecting but it was better, bigger, eternal! No wonder they raced back to Jerusalem in order to share the good news!

Today's story is one of the most famous stories of an encounter with Jesus. The people didn't even realise until afterwards that it was Jesus who was walking with them.

Today's 'social distance' Young and Youth Church is all about...

2) Digging in: Emmaus and the Eucharist – 'an eye opening journey'.

Equipment needed:

Access to the Internet to play the You Tube clip. Or the DVD 'Miracle Maker'.

Optional – Bible. Luke Chapter 24, verses 13-35 (alternatively read the version below)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wR4xhA4Mb6A>



First, watch this short You Tube clip from the animated film 'Miracle Maker'. Stop the video at 4 minutes when the animation ends.

Now shared read the journey to Emmaus Luke 24: 13-35.

Luke 24:13-35 The Walk to Emmaus

¹³ On that same day two of Jesus' followers were going to a village named Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, ¹⁴ and they were talking to each other about all the things that had happened. ¹⁵ As they talked and discussed, Jesus himself drew near and walked along with them; ¹⁶ they saw him, but somehow did not recognize him. ¹⁷ Jesus said to them, "What are you talking about to each other, as you walk along?"

They stood still, with sad faces. ¹⁸ One of them, named Cleopas, asked him, "Are you the only visitor in Jerusalem who doesn't know the things that have been happening there these last few days?"

¹⁹ "What things?" he asked.

"The things that happened to Jesus of Nazareth," they answered. "This man was a prophet and was considered by God and by all the people to be powerful in everything he said and did. ²⁰ Our chief priests and rulers handed him over to be sentenced to death, and he was crucified. ²¹ And we had hoped that he would be the one who was going to set Israel free! Besides all that, this is now the third day since it happened. ²² Some of the women of our group surprised us; they went at dawn to the tomb, ²³ but could not find his body. They came back saying they had seen a vision of angels who told them that he is alive. ²⁴ Some of our group went to the tomb and found it exactly as the women had said, but they did not see him."

²⁵ Then Jesus said to them, "How foolish you are, how slow you are to believe everything the prophets said! ²⁶ Was it not necessary for the Messiah to suffer these things and then to enter his glory?" ²⁷ And Jesus explained to them what was said about himself in all the Scriptures, beginning with the books of Moses and the writings of all the prophets.

²⁸ As they came near the village to which they were going, Jesus acted as if he were going farther; ²⁹ but they held him back, saying, "Stay with us; the day is almost over and it is getting dark." So he went in to stay with them. ³⁰ He sat down to eat with them, took the bread, and said the blessing; then he broke the bread and gave it to them. ³¹ Then their eyes were opened and they recognized him, but he disappeared from their sight. ³² They said to each other, "Wasn't it like a fire burning in us when he talked to us on the road and explained the Scriptures to us?"

³³ They got up at once and went back to Jerusalem, where they found the eleven disciples gathered together with the others ³⁴ and saying, "The Lord is risen indeed! He has appeared to Simon!"

³⁵ The two then explained to them what had happened on the road, and how they had recognized the Lord when he broke the bread.

Story telling reflection questions...



two of his friends?

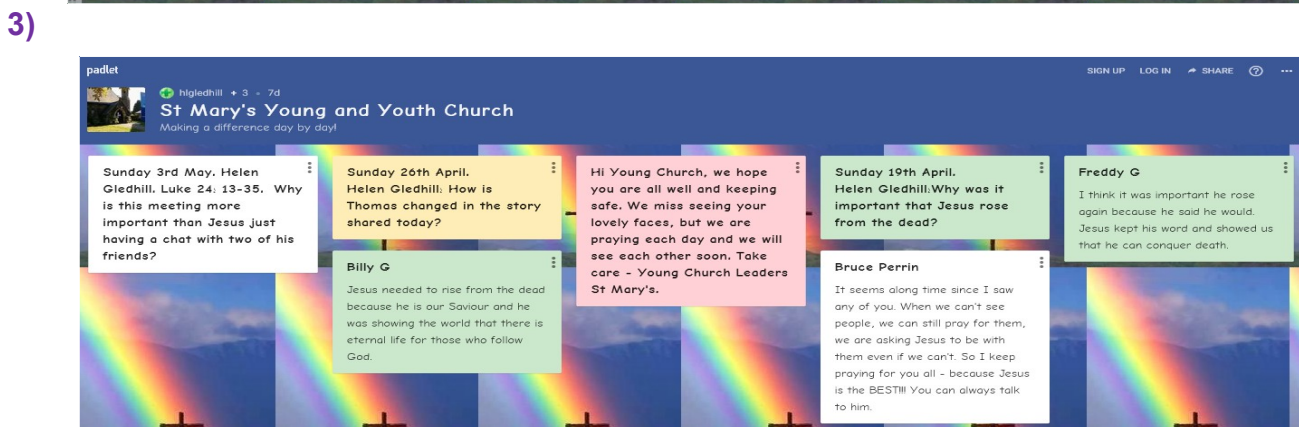
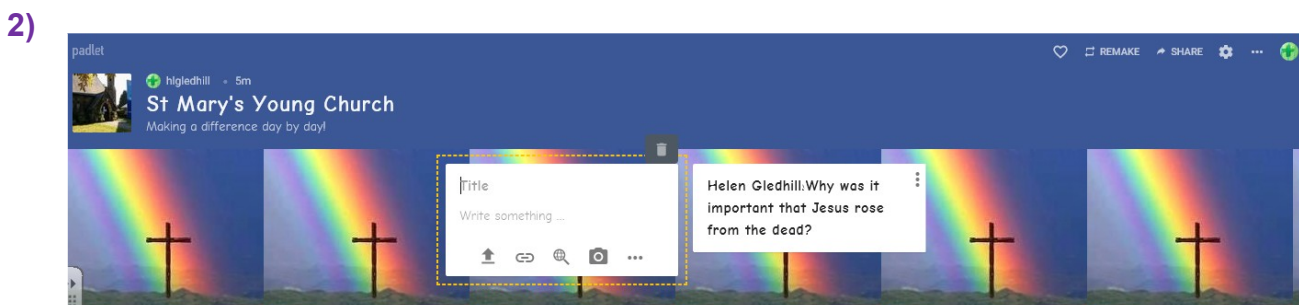
- Why did Jairus and Cleopas say they had been leaving Jerusalem? How had they been feeling?
- What happened to make them feel different?
- What did Jesus explain to them?
- When did they recognise Jesus?
- Why didn't they recognise Jesus at first?
- How did this encounter with Jesus change them?
- How did hearing their account affect the rest of the disciples?
- Are these two disciples changed by meeting Jesus on the road?
- Why is this meeting more important than Jesus just having a chat with

If you want to, why not respond to a question from this week on our very own Padlet.

1) All you have to do is access this page (copy and paste the URL). The page below should come up.

2) Then, double left click on the page and a text box for you to write in should appear. Where it states: Title. Type your first name, so we know who you are! Then answer the question, or just leave us a message. It is one way we can all stay in touch whilst keeping social distancing.

<https://padlet.com/hlgledhill/o6tv3i8qndzdpdpcu>



3) Response: Memory Verse...

Equipment needed:

- Heart-warming memory verse PDF sheet ([Click Here](#))
- Heart shaped object
- As many family members as you have!

Sit in a circle or row (if you can). One person goes out of the room for a moment while another person hides the heart object and the heart-warming memory verse PDF on.

Call the person back in and have them hunt for the heart object and verse. Everyone else should call out whether the person is warm (close to the object) or cold (far away from it). You can have degrees of it - i.e. freezing is as far away as you can get; burning up would be pretty much on top of it.

When they find it, they should read the verse out.

Play several times with different people hunting.

“When Jesus talked with us along the road... didn’t it warm our hearts?”

Luke 24:32



4) Take away: Baking! Jesus can warm our hearts '

Equipment needed:

- Ingredients (see list below)
- Rolling pin,
- Heart cutters,
- Baking tray,
- Oven and
- Baking paper.

Ingredients:

- 125 g unsalted butter
- 100 g dark muscovado sugar
- 4 tbsp golden syrup
- 325 g plain flour
- 1 tsp bicarbonate of soda
- 2 tsp ground ginger
- Writing Icing (optional)

Makes: 25 biscuits

The two disciples on the road said that their hearts felt warmed when Jesus was speaking to them. What does this mean? The disciples' hearts were recognising Jesus before their heads did! Why not make some gingerbread hearts to remind you of this.

Method:

1. Preheat the oven to 170°C, gas mark 3. Line baking trays with baking parchment. Melt the butter, sugar and syrup in a medium saucepan, stirring occasionally, then remove from the heat.
2. Sieve the flour, bicarbonate of soda and ginger into a bowl and stir the melted ingredients into the dry ingredients to make a stiff dough.
3. Turn out onto a lightly floured surface and roll to a thickness of about 5 mm. Dip biscuit cutters into flour before cutting the dough. Place the heart shapes onto the lined baking trays and bake, in batches, for 9-10 minutes until light golden brown.
4. Remove from the oven.
5. When completely cool, decorate with the icing. The gingerbread biscuits can be stored in an airtight container for up to two weeks.

5) Close prayer and St Mary's key reflections:

- 1) What does this teach us about God/Jesus/Holy Spirit?
- 2) What do we need to do (this week)?



Dear God,

May the road rise to meet you,
May the wind be always at your back,
May the sun shine warm upon your face,
The rains fall soft upon your fields and,
Until we meet again,
May God hold you in the palm of His hand.
Amen

In these days, as we are home for an extended period of time, isolated from normal interaction, let us pray that you will realise that it is Jesus who walks beside you.

Until next week St Mary's Young and Youth church, may you be blessed in every way and keep the faith alive because walking with Jesus is always 'an eye opening journey'.

Hymn links:

Range of contemporary children's Easter 'resurrection' songs visit:

<https://ministry-to-children.com/easter-worship-songs/>

Video links:

A selection of video clips liked to: 'The road to Emmaus'.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YRGLLMAuSjw>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wR4xhA4Mb6A>



Diddy Disciples 'church at home' is a creative and playful worship and Bible storytelling on line resource for babies, toddlers and young children. This is a great resources for all our Young Church children, so we thought we would share.

<https://www.diddydisciples.org/thechurchathome>