



**St Mary's Magazine Easter 2018**

## **RECTOR'S REFLECTIONS (Bob's Bit)**

God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

*John 3. 16*

We are looking forward to the celebration of Easter, when we shall rejoice in the resurrection of Jesus with its promise for us of new life. How did this happen? It began with God's love for the whole world. God did not want people like us to spend eternity without him. But he had to deal with the problem of our sin, which separates us from him. His love for us made him send his one and only Son to pay the price of sin, by taking the place, which ought to have been ours, on the cross. This is God's gift to us. He gave his one and only Son for us. Perhaps we should say that he gave up his Son for us, because Jesus came down from Heaven to die on a cross. When he took upon himself the sin of the whole world, Jesus experienced temporary separation from his Father and cried out, 'My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?' We need never experience that separation from God if we put our trust in Jesus. This is our response to God's gift: faith. We believe in Jesus as our Saviour and Lord. By so doing we participate in a new kind of life, eternal life, in which we enjoy fellowship with God and fellow Christians for the rest of our lives, starting now and crossing over into the next world. The resurrection is a guarantee because Jesus is the first of many followers.

Happy Easter!

## **EASTER SERVICES**

25 March Palm Sunday	10.00am	Sung Eucharist
28 March Wednesday	10.00am	Said Eucharist
29 March Maundy Thursday	11.00am	Chrism Mass in Cathedral
29 March Maundy Thursday	6.30pm	Sung Eucharist and Refreshments from St Mary's Fellowship
30 March Good Friday	12.00 noon till 3.00pm	Vigil
1 April Easter Day	10.00am	Sung Eucharist

## **ANNA'S BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION**



# THINKING DAY 25 FEBRUARY 2018

