

HAPPY EASTER TO ALL

Happy seems such a feeble word to use for this wonderful time in our church calendar, because we tend to think of it as meaning the 'feel-good' factor for as long as things are basically okay for us. 'Joyous' or 'blessed' seem more like good Christian words. Look a bit closer however, and we find that the word Jesus used for the famous Beatitudes, when He said 'Blessed are the poor in spirit...', and repeated that word 'blessed' nine times over, actually means 'happy'. The Greek word is 'makarios', which has the various meanings of 'fortunate', 'well-off' or 'happy'. I guess the opposite of being happy is being downright miserable. Paul said that if the Lord Jesus was not actually raised from the dead, then we (as Christian believers) are of all men most miserable.

The only excuse any of us can have for misery is a lack of faith in Jesus' bodily resurrection – but since the indwelling Spirit is conclusive proof of that resurrection, then we become of all men most happy, well-off, and fortunate. Rejoice, rejoice and again I say rejoice! Here is the chorus of one of our favourite Easter hymns to keep us happy:

'He lives! He lives! Christ Jesus lives to-day!
He walks with me, He talks with me,
Along life's narrow way.
He lives! He lives! Salvation to impart,
You ask me how I know he lives,
He lives within my heart!'
Hallelujah! Have a very happy Easter!

Paul and Jenny, Sunday 16 April 2006

Our Easter Sunday services

Morning 10:30am in the church	Evening Celebration 07:00pm in the church
Paul Riseley is leading and speaking during this morning's service. After all-age worship as part of the main service, youngsters go to the hall for fun and teaching and there is a crèche available for families.	Praise & Prayer.

Message from Joan Hadlow

The next Kakamega meal is on Saturday June 17, cost is £8. Please bring your friends and contact Joan Hadlow for tickets. Also in aid of RUSH, there is an all day breakfast on 23 April, please see Jan Warner for details. Thanks.

RUSH Quiz night (message from Kate)

You are invited to a 'Quiz Night' in aid of the RUSH Project (Reaching the Unreached with Self-Help) at St. John the Baptist Church Hall, Dale Road, Purley on Saturday 06 May 2006, 7:30pm for a 7:45pm start. The cost is £7.50 per person, to include a pizza supper. Please bring your own plates, cutlery, drink, glasses and nibbles. There is free off-road parking next to the church and teams are of 8 people. For tickets please contact: Maria 020 8668 7588, Barbara 020 8656 1794 or Kate 0776 205 9620.

This week's events

Note: Due to Easter there is a reduced programme this week

Wednesday		
01:30pm	Parent and toddler group – meeting this week at church.	Playmates
07:45pm	House group at Richard & Gill's this week looking at Romans 9.	Home group
07:45pm	Missionary prayer. Speak to Ron or Kath for details/location.	Prayer

Whyteleafe Free Church, Godstone Road, Whyteleafe, CR3 0EH, telephone: 020 8668 3150

Pastor Paul & Jenny Riseley telephone: 01883 330 805 (their day off is Tuesday)

Please send any bulletin news of information to 01883 625 929