



PPT: the Parish Church of St Peter, St Paul
& St Thomas of Canterbury, Bovey Tracey
and St Mary's, Hennock



Easter Bulletin

April - June 2024



Contents:

1. Cover:
2. *Death Defeated!*
3. APCM, Outreach
4. First Steps
5. Bible Conference at Rora
- 6-7. What's on March-May
8. Who's Who



Letter from the Vicar: *Death defeated*

I am writing this just before I begin my third course of chemotherapy. I thank the Lord that I have experienced very few side-effects, other than some tiredness and total loss of hair, but one must not take recovery for granted in any serious illness, and we must all face the fact of our eventual mortality.

Paul wrote in his letter to the Philippians: "I eagerly expect and hope that I will in no way be ashamed, but will have sufficient courage so that now as always Christ will be exalted in my body, whether by life or by death. For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain." (Phil 1.20)

Holy Week and Easter is the season when we remember that Jesus experienced death in all its bitterness for us, so that we can face it with sure hope - 'to die is gain'- because Christ is risen!

In the Sundays after Easter we shall cross-examine the first witnesses of Easter in John's gospel, and then consider its implications as set out by St Paul in chapter 15 of his first letter to Corinth.

The resurrection may be unverifiable according to the *scientific method* (we can't test it by repeating it any more than we can repeat any historical event) but it is more reliable - better attested- as a fact of history than [the assassination of Julius Caesar](#) in 44BC! The earliest ancient evidence of Caesar's death is Plutarch's *Life of Caesar*, written about 160 years later, but Paul testifies to the resurrection in 1 Cor 15, less than 20 years after the death and resurrection of Jesus.

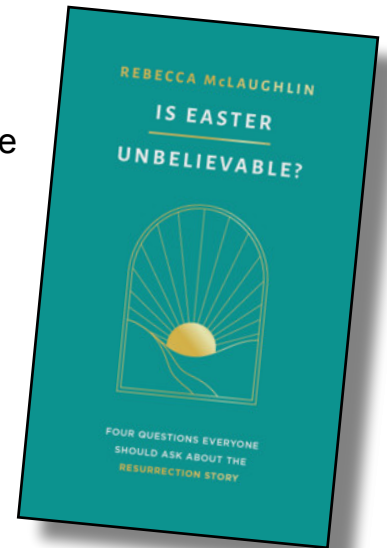
If you do not believe this, why not read something like "Is Easter unbelievable?" by Rebecca McLaughlin- copies will be available on Easter Sunday for free (or you can pay £1) - please take a copy, read it and give it away to a friend or family member.

This is the best news in the world - that our God has defeated death! If he can raise Jesus, he can raise us, and he can restore all creation. Our hope is not a vague possibility that there may be something beyond death, nor a sentimental disbelief that death could be the end, but it is grounded in the evidence of the empty tomb and the transformed lives of the every generation of Christians, from the first eye-witnesses to the present.

In 1930 Nikolai Ivanovich Bukharin, a Communist leader, harangued a huge crowd in Kiev on the the subject of atheism. He hurled insults and arguments against Christianity for an hour, then asked "Are there any questions?" expecting no answer from the uneducated peasants gathered there. There was a profound silence. Then one man approached the platform and mounted the lectern standing near the communist leader. He surveyed the crowd then shouted the greeting that had been ingrained in the hearts and minds of Russian Christians for centuries: "CHRIST IS RISEN!" *En masse* the crowd arose as one man and the response came crashing like the sound of thunder: "HE IS RISEN INDEED!"

May that Easter shout resound in our church and society once again this Easter!

yours in Christ,
Graham



THE ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

Each year every parish church holds an Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM), at which parishioners elect Church Wardens for the coming year, and PCC members for a three year term. Reports on the fabric and finance of the church are presented, and there is time for questions of interest.

The meeting for Bovey will be held on Sat 20 April at 10am in the Church Room, and for Hennock on Sunday 19 May at 12.15pm in the Village Hall.

This year I will be unable to attend either meeting in person, but hope to deliver my report via video link.

Mission Focus.

Each month we have a different focus for our prayers and mission giving. Our focus for April is **Heatree Activity Centre, Falcon Camps** for May and the **Sandels Family** with YWAM in Albania for June. James will be joining us on 23 June at the morning services.

You can read their latest news if you [click here](#).

If you wish to make a donation you can put cash in the collection plate on Sunday, or use the contactless payment device, or make an online donation through the Church Bank account: please name the mission focus in the reference box.

If you wish to make a donation to general church funds, please set up a standing order, or use the yellow envelopes in each pew and at the back of church.

In February we raised £299 for the Peninsular Gospel Partnership.

Can We Trust the Gospels? by Peter J. Williams

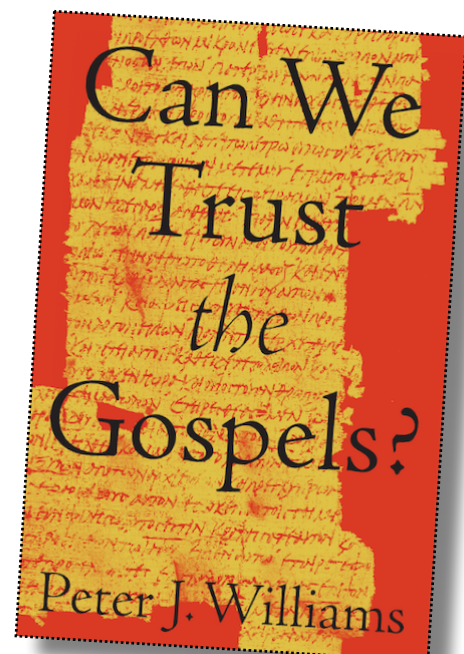
In an age of skepticism about the Bible's authority, it's common to hear claims that the Gospels—which narrate the events and teachings of Jesus's life—are unreliable propaganda. And if the Gospels are shown to be historically unreliable, the whole foundation of Christianity begins to crumble.

But the Gospels are historically reliable. And the evidence for this is vast.

In *Can We Trust the Gospels?*, New Testament scholar Peter J. Williams examines the evidence and presents it to readers in a concise, accessible way. Readers of this eBook will learn:

- How accurately the four biblical accounts reflect the cultural context of their day
- How different accounts of the same event compare
- How these ancient texts were handed down throughout the centuries
- Which elements of the Gospel narratives make it highly unlikely they were made up
- How to address allegations of contradictions between the Gospels
- And more!

To get instant access to the *Can We Trust the Gospels?* eBook, simply [follow this link](#):



First Steps

I have had the pleasure of running First Steps for over 14 years, after first attending the group as a mum with my son Eli, when he was a toddler and then taking over running the group from Sally Walker.

However, after much prayer and thought, I have decided it is time to step down as the leader of First Steps. I have thoroughly enjoyed my time at First Steps and am proud of the work done, reaching many families in Bovey over the years. I have forged strong friendships with many of the mums who have attended over the years and have seen many of the toddlers who attended, grow up, and are now at secondary school! I have seen, and still see, many of the families attend our Christingle and Crib Services and have seen several of the children from First Steps baptised at PPT. All 3 of my grandchildren have attended the group too and loved it. Rosie and Shirley work very well together so I am sure the group will continue to flourish and serve the families of Bovey.

We have enjoyed another busy year and it's been blessing to see many first time mums attend First Steps- we now have a dedicated baby area and it is a joy to see these first time mum forge friendships as they adapt to a new season in their lives.

Our older toddlers have enjoyed bible stories, crafts, singing and our messy "tuff trays" although their grown ups occasionally look a little unsure when elbow deep in shaving foam or sand and hidden dinosaurs!

We enjoyed our annual Nativity service in Church and a visit from Father Christmas and are looking forward to our Easter celebration in church on the 22nd March, which will also be my last session at First Steps.

Thank you to everyone who has supported me during my time leading First Steps and also to everyone who has prayed for the group over the years. I really do appreciate it.

Camilla Matheson.

Alexei Navalny- Christian Martyr? 1976- 16 Feb 2024

"If you want, I'll talk to you about God and salvation. I'll turn up the volume of heartbreak to the maximum, so to speak. The fact is that I am a Christian, which usually rather sets me up as an example for constant ridicule in the Anti-Corruption Foundation, because mostly our people are atheists, and I was once quite a militant atheist myself. But now I am a believer, and that helps me a lot in my activities, because everything becomes much, much easier. I think about things less. There are fewer dilemmas in my life, because there is a book in which, in general, it is more or less clearly written what action to take in every situation. It's not always easy to follow this book, of course, but I am actually trying. And so, as I said, it's easier for me, probably, than for many others, to engage in politics. *"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be satisfied."* I've always thought that this particular commandment is more or less an instruction to activity. And so, while certainly not really enjoying the place where I am, I have no regrets about coming back, or about what I'm doing. It's fine, because I did the right thing. On the contrary, I feel a real kind of satisfaction. Because at some difficult moment I did as required by the instructions, and did not betray the commandment."
Alexei Navalny, 2021



From the registers:

Our condolences to the families of those whose funerals were held at PPT in March:
Sir Jonathan Clarke

Bible Ministry Conference at Rora House, Liverton

We are running a Bible Ministry Conference at Rora over the Easter Weekend with Peter Elks and Tim Cross. Accommodation available. Or if you live locally, please know you're welcome to join us for the meetings / sessions.... schedule as follows:

Friday 29th March – 7pm
 Saturday 30th March – 2 options (not confirmed yet!) – either 1 session from 10.30am, or 2 sessions 10am-11am, (coffee break), 11.30am – 12.30pm (lunch) & 7pm
 Sunday 31st March – 10.30am & 7pm
 Monday 1st April – 2 options (not confirmed yet!) – either 1 session from 10.30am, or 2 sessions 10am-11am,



(coffee break), 11.30am – 12.30pm (lunch)

ALL WELCOME.

What's on at PPT Bovey & St Mary's

see the weekly notice sheet for details of regular midweek services and events

24 Sun

PPT 9.30am
 11.00am
 5.00pm

Palm Sunday

Bible readings: Mark 1.1 John 19.16-38
 Sunday Praise: Rev David Witchell
 Morning Worship: Rev David Witchell
 Prayer and Praise tbc

St Mary's 11.00am

Bible readings: 1 Tim 6.11-16, John 18.28-19.16
 Morning Worship: Rev Paul Reynolds

Maundy Thursday 7.30pm

Maundy Communion: Can. Michael Sansom

Good Friday 10.00am
 12 noon

Easter Trail in Mill Marsh park
 Meditative Service: Mrs Carolyn Laycock

St Mary's 2.00pm

Meditative Service: Mrs Carolyn Laycock.

31 Easter Day

9.30am
 11.00am
 5.00pm

Easter- the Empty Tomb.

Bible readings: Acts 10.34-43, John 19.39-20.9
 All Age Communion: Rev David Harris
 Holy Communion: Rev David Harris.
 Prayer & Praise: Rev David Harris.

St Mary's 11.00am

Bible readings: Acts 10.34-43, John 19.39-20.9
 Holy Communion: Canon Michael Sansom

April			
7th			Easter 2: Meeting the Risen Lord. Bible readings: Acts 4.32-35, John 20.10-23 Sunday Praise: Mr Mark Alexander
PPT	9.30am 11.00am 5.00pm		Morning Praise: Mr Mark Alexander Prayer and Praise: Mr Mark Alexander
St Mary's	11.00am		Bible readings: Acts 5.27-32, John 20.23-31 Morning Worship- Churchwarden.
14th			Easter 3: Doubting Thomas Bible readings: Acts 5.27-32, John 20.23-31. Sunday Praise: Rev Graham Hamilton- (via video)
	9.30am 11.00am 5.00pm		Holy Communion: Rev Graham Hamilton -(via video). Prayer & Praise: Rev Graham Hamilton (via video)
St Mary's	11.00am		Bible readings: Acts 4.32-35, John 20.10-2 Morning Worship: Mr Mark Alexander.
21st			Easter 4: Peter Restored. Bible readings: Acts 9.1-6, John 21.
PPT	9.30am 11.00am 5.00pm		Sunday Praise: Mrs Carolyn Laycock Morning Praise: Mrs Carolyn Laycock St George Service: Rev Alex Sharp
St Mary's	11.00am		Bible readings: Acts 9.1-6, John 21 Morning Worship: Mr Keith Butler.
28th			Easter 5: Of first importance. Bible readings: 1 Cor.15.1-11, Matthew 28.16-20.
	9.30am 11.00am 5.00pm		Sunday Praise: Rev Graham Cotter Holy Communion: Rev Graham Cotter Prayer & Praise: tbc.
St Mary's	11.00am		Bible readings: 1 Cor.15.1-11, Matthew 28.16-20 Holy Communion: Rev Fiona Wimsett
May			
PPT			Easter 6: If Christ is not raised. Bible readings: 1 Cor. 15.12-34, Luke 6.17-26.
5th	9.30am 11.00am 5.00pm		Sunday Praise: Rev Graham Hamilton (via video) Morning Praise: Rev Graham Hamilton (via video) Prayer & Praise Rev Graham Hamilton (via video).
St Mary's	11.00am		Bible readings: 1 Cor. 15.12-34, Luke 6.17-26 Holy Communion: Rev Paul Wimsett
9th Thu	6.00pm		Evensong for Ascension: Canon Michael Sansom

12th		Rogation Sunday: Resurrection bodies Bible readings: 1 Cor. 15.35-end, Matthew 22.23-33. Sunday Praise: Rev Alan Jonas Holy Communion: Rev Alan Jonas Prayer & Praise tbc
	9.30am	
	11.00am	
	5.00pm	
St Mary's		Bible readings: 1 Cor. 15.35-end, Matthew 22.23-33 Morning Worship: Mr G Whittle
	11.00am	
19th		Pentecost: The Counsellor to come. Bible readings: Acts 2.1-21, John 14.15-31. Sunday Praise: Can. Michael Sansom. Holy Communion: Can. Michael Sansom Prayer & Praise: tbc
	9.30am	
	11.00am	
	5.00pm	
St Mary's		Bible readings: Acts 2.1-21, John 14.15-3 Morning Worship: Church Warden followed by APCM in the Village Hall
	11.00am	
26th		Trinity: The Fruit of the Vine Bible readings: Acts 8.26-40, John 15.1-17 Sunday Praise: Mrs Carolyn Laycock Morning Praise: Mrs Carolyn Laycock. Prayer & Praise : tbc
	9.30am	
	11.00am	
	5.00pm	
St Mary's		Bible readings: Isaiah 6.1-8, John 3.1-17 Morning Worship: Mr Keith Butler
	11.00am	
<u>June</u>		
2nd		1st after Trinity: Stand in the Spirit. Bible readings: Rom. 8.22-27, John 15.18-16.11 Sunday Praise: Rev Howard Cunnington Holy Communion: Rev Howard Cunnington. Prayer & Praise: tbc
	9.30am	
	11.00am	
	5.00pm	
St Marys		Bible readings: Acts 8.26-40, John 15.1-17 Morning Worship- Mrs Carolyn Laycock.
	11.00am	
9th		2nd after Trinity: From Grief to joy. Bible readings: Prov. 8.1-4, John 16.12-33. Sunday Praise (Holy Communion): Rev David Harris. Holy Communion: Rev David Harris. Prayer & Praise: Rev David Harris
	9.30am	
	11.00am	
	5.00pm	
St Mary's		Bible readings: Rom. 8.22-27, John 15.18-16.11 Morning Worship: Mr Graham Whittle
	11.00am	
16th		3rd after Trinity: Life in his Name Bible readings: 1 Peter 4.12-5.11, John 17.1-12. Sunday Praise: Rev Paul Reynolds. Holy Communion: Rev Paul Reynolds Prayer & Praise: tbc
	9.30am	
	11.00am	
	5.00pm	

Who's who at PPT Bovey & St Mary's Hennock:

The Vicar is on light duties until further notice: please address all enquiries to the Church Administrator, Camilla.

Church Administrator:

Camilla Matheson 834835
email office@pptbovey.church

Family Worker:

Rosie Stephens 07876 662138
email: familyworker@pptbovey.church

Youth Worker:

Angie Blanche 07863 854013
email: youth@pptbovey.church

Churchwardens (PPT)

Michael Codner 01626 824644
Mark Alexander 07955 716329

Email: wardens@pptbovey.church
(Hennock)

Ellena Jamie 854752
Miles Pomfrett 331062

Licensed Lay Minister:

Carolyn Laycock 01626 832335

Anna Chaplain:

Jill Hosford 01626 832966

Elected P.C.C.Members (PPT):

Barry Newport 07753 309797
Mike Limb 01626 832705
Jill Hosford 01626 832966
Sharon Alexander 01626 854635
Tim Stephens 01626 834115
Shirley Codner 01626 824644
Peter Chesterman 07487 690791
Sue Nickels 01626 830308

Deanery Synod Reps:

Roy White 832771
Mathew Percy 07913 706627
Jack Knightly

Diocesan Synod Rep:

Dawn Hamilton 833813

P.C.C. Hon. Treasurer:

Roy Pitchford 07793 909985
e: treasurer@pptbovey.church

Gift Aid Hon. Secretary:

Kate Martin 01647 277458

Safeguarding Officer:

Tim Stephens 01626 834115

Safeguarding Administrator:

Shirley Codner 01626 824644

Captain of the Ringers

Mike Wigney 07748 933779

Choir Co-ordinator:

Margaret Steele 832137

First Steps Toddler Group:

Camilla Matheson 01364 661195

Church Room Secretary:

Jane Midgley, 832751
jane.midgley@gmail.com

Flower Rota:

Sarah Gilbert 833934

PPT Bovey is a registered Charity: 1128849.

The PPT Bank account is
'P C C Bovey Tracey',
acct no. 01219910, sort code 30-96-06.

The Hennock bank account is:
FOR PCC OF HENNOCK
acct no: 01220021 sort code 30-96-06

Please note that the Church office is no longer staffed, but ansaphones, emails and post are checked regularly during the week. Contact the church wardens for details.

The Church Website contains details of all events, audio sermon files and documents for download: go to www.pptbovey.church

"PPT Bovey is committed to the safeguarding of children, young people and adults.. If you are concerned that a child or adult has been harmed or may be at risk of harm please contact the Parish Safeguarding officer. If you have immediate concerns about the safety of someone, please contact the police or local authority Children or Adults Services."