



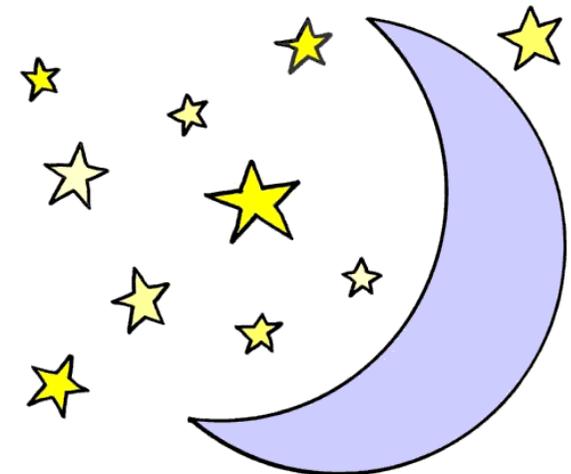
Welcome to your Easter booklet. Please use this with your family over the next three weeks as we explore together the amazing good news of Easter.

Name: _____

Age: _____

My favourite thing about Easter is:

Did you know that each year Easter is on a different day, based on the cycle of the moon?



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CHALLENGE

Can you learn the names of the four books of the Bible? They are called the Gospels and it is where we read what happened on the first Easter.

Note for parents and carers

This booklet has been designed to be used by children approximately 3-6 years old. There is a complementary booklet for children aged 7-10 years old, which you can download from www.stjohnshartford.org if you feel it would be more suitable for your child.

Whilst your child should be able to enjoy some of this on their own—colouring etc, it has been designed for you to work through with your child(ren). We hope that as a family you can join us for at least the first part of our Sunday morning service, especially to watch the children's talk. You might like to then carry on with the booklet (catching up on the rest of the service yourself at a later time), or save the booklet for a weekly family devotional at a later point. Bible quotes are based on either the NIV or the ICB (International Children's Bible). If you don't have a copy at home, you can find both translations at www.biblegateway.com. If you have any questions about this material, please email teresa@stjohnshartford.org

Easter Sunday

In 1 Corinthians 15:1-11, Paul is telling people the amazing good news that Jesus died, was buried and then came back to life!

Can you draw a picture for each part of the story?

Jesus died

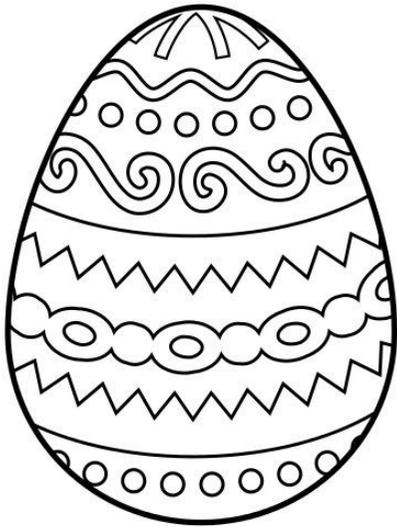
Jesus was buried

Jesus came back to life

How does each part of the Easter story make you feel?
Happy, sad, angry, confused? Chat to your family about this.
You can draw happy and sad faces below each of your pictures.

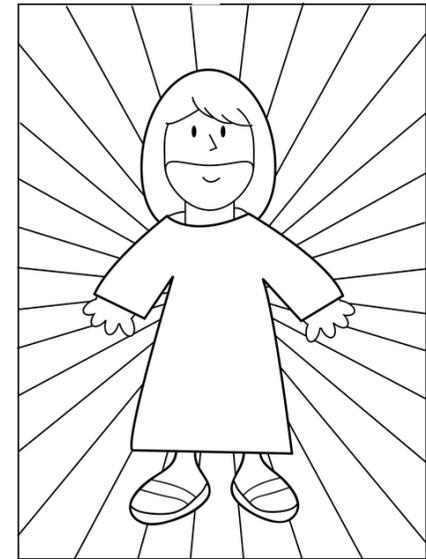
Easter Sunday continued

The Bible tells us that the most important thing that Jesus did was to die for us and to come back to life again. He did this to take away all the bad things that we do and to help us to be friends with God again.



Did you know that we have chocolate eggs at Easter to remind us of the new life that Jesus promises to us?

Jesus Is My Friend



twistynoodle.com

Dear Jesus, thank you for dying on the cross to make everything right between me and God.

Amen

Craft idea—make some chocolate Easter nests. Talk about how the new life we see in nature at Spring time, reminds us of the new life that is promised to us through the death and resurrection of Jesus.

Sunday 11th April

In 1 Corinthians 15:12-34, Paul reminds us that Jesus coming back to life is the most important part of our Christian faith. If we don't believe that Jesus came back to life, then Paul says that our faith counts for nothing.

It does sound almost impossible for someone to have come back to life after they died. But the Bible says that it did really happen to Jesus. Lots of people saw him alive. Get an adult to help you to find out who saw Jesus alive again in each of these verses. Write their name, or draw a picture of them.

John 20:16

John 20:28

Matthew 28:16-17

Sunday 11th April continued



Everyone who saw Jesus alive rushed to tell other people the amazing news. Did you know that 2 people, travelling on the road to Emmaus, ran 7 miles to tell everybody that they had seen Jesus?

Write down the name or draw a picture of someone that you could tell the amazing news of Jesus to.

Craft idea— you can make a simple version of this craft by cutting out a semi-circle of yellow paper and sticking it onto some white A4 (or draw the outline to colour in). Write on the words and then use strips of yellow paper, or crayons to colour in the sun's rays. Talk about how it was just at sun rise that Jesus rose from the dead.



Resurrection

Resurrection is just a big word that means “came back to life”.

Dear Jesus, thank you that you came back to life. Please help me to tell other people this amazing news. Amen

Sunday 18th April

Today we are looking at 1 Corinthians 15:35-58

Paul says that here on earth we have a natural body, just like Adam did when he was in the garden of Eden.



But when we go to heaven we will be changed to be like Jesus and have a spiritual body.



Draw a picture of yourself in your garden.



Draw a picture of yourself with Jesus in heaven.

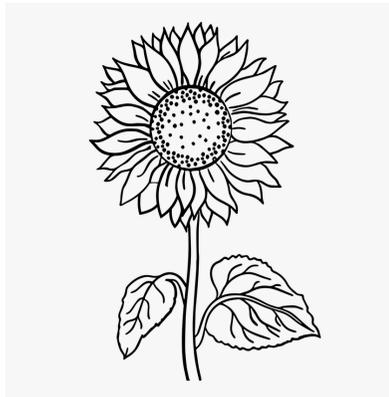
Sunday 18th April continued

On earth, our bodies get tired, they get hurt, they get poorly and they get old. But in heaven, the Bible tells us that our bodies won't hurt or get ill, we won't ever feel tired and we will live forever.

What is the best thing about your body now? (Maybe you can run fast, or smile nicely, maybe you enjoy tasting food or having hugs).

What are you most looking forward to about life in heaven?

Paul says that in order to enjoy life in heaven, we first have to die. He compares it to a seed that is planted and buried in the ground before it can flower and live.



Dear Jesus, thank you
that we can live with you
forever in heaven.
Amen

Craft idea— If you haven't already done so, now would be a good time to plant your sunflower seeds (or cress seeds if you want a quicker result!). Talk about how the "dead" seed is a little bit like Jesus when He had died. We bury the seed in the soil, but then God gives it new life, which we can see as it grows.

Easter Explorers Churchyard Trail

Easter Explorers

for the young and the young at heart

**Follow the Easter Trail through
our churchyard as you journey
from Palm Sunday to Easter Day
and beyond!**

For more information about our COVID safe Easter Trail, which will be open from Palm Sunday (28th March) & throughout the Easter holidays, please visit www.stjohnshartford.org

Easter Explorers continued

If you want to continue to explore Easter, you can take part in the churchyard trail at any time during the Easter holidays.

If you aren't able to visit the churchyard in person, you can complete the trail in your own garden at home, by downloading the pdf that you can find on our website.

<https://www.stjohnshartford.org/easter>

