

WORD OF THE WEEK

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Luke...

On the first day of the week, very early in the morning, the women took the spices they had prepared and went to the tomb. They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, but when they entered, they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. While they were wondering about this, suddenly two men in clothes that gleamed like lightning stood beside them. In their fright the women bowed down with their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, "Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here; he has risen! Remember how he told you, while he was still with you in Galilee: 'The Son of Man must be delivered over to the hands of sinners, be crucified and on the third day be raised again." Then they remembered his words.

When they came back from the tomb, they told all these things to the Eleven and to all the others. It was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the others with them who told this to the apostles. But they did not believe the women, because their words seemed to them like nonsense. Peter, however, got up and ran to the tomb. Bending over, he saw the strips of linen lying by themselves, and he went away, wondering to himself what had happened.

the Week

Dear God. Thank You for the gift of Jesus and the hope His resurrection brings. We are grateful that through His victory over death, we can have new life and peace in You.

Help us to live with hope, trusting that You are always with us. Give us the strength to share Your love and light with others, and quide us each day in Your joy and grace.

Amen.

Everyone likes a good comeback story. The bible is full of them...a young boy who defeats a giant, a prophet with a stutter lead's God's people to the Promised Land, and the greatest story of them all...God's Son who is put to death but comes back to life!

What looked like defeat to the world was actually Jesus winning the greatest victory.

What's the most incredible come back you've ever seen?

Why do you think Jesus died on the cross?

Why do you think he came back to life?

Even though Jesus told His disciples what was going to happen, they didn't understand or believe Him.

Do you struggle in the same way?

How can remembering what happened at Easter help you when facing any challenges or struggles?



Forever- Kari Jobe
(LISTEN HERE)

Resurrecting-ELEVATION WORSHIP (LISTEN HERE)

Yesterday Today Forever– One Hope Project (LISTEN HERE)



EASTER HOPE

Did you know that the Easter story was a story of hope?

Jesus taught people about God's love and that we can show God's love by helping others. Jesus gave people hope and helped them see that life could be better.

However, a big part of the Easter story is that when things got difficult and complicated, people turned away from Jesus. People disagreed with him and Jesus was killed. When he died, everything looked hopeless. What hope was there for the future?

But the story doesn't end there.

Three days later, Jesus rose from the dead. He spent time with his friends and family.

Because he did this, Jesus gave them hope for the future. When things look really awful, there is always hope.



PILGRIMS OF HOPE



Are there areas or situations in your life where you need to inject some hope? Talk to the person next to you, or to a friend about situations in your life that you would like to be more hopeful about.

Maybe you are in Year 11 and you need to be more hopeful about your upcoming exams? Maybe you are in Year 9 and struggling with friends and need to be more hopeful that you will find a group of people you are comfortable with. Maybe you are in Year 7 or 8 and you need to be more hopeful when things get difficult? Maybe you are in Year 10 and you need to inject a bit of hope into the people around you and be a voice of hope to others that might be struggling?

It isn't always easy to be hopeful but all we can do is try. That is our challenge when living out the Easter message. Jesus wants us to be pilgrims of hope, who dream, who aim high and do incredible things to change the world.