



Registered Charity No 251394

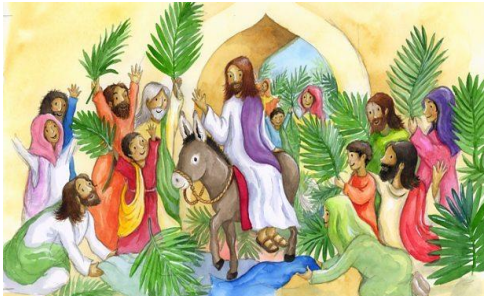
TRAVELLING THE EASTER ROAD



April 2023



By the beginning of April this year, we are nearing the end of the road to EASTER. Big things are about to happen through this first week of April!



On April 2nd we remember Jesus travelling the road to Jerusalem with his friends. They were preparing to celebrate the important Jewish festival of Passover. They were welcomed into the city by the crowds who waved Palm branches and shouted "Hosanna, glory to God". They were hoping Jesus was going to do wonderful things for them, perhaps even lead an army against the hated Romans. This was the Sunday.

Jesus spent the next few days teaching the people God's message and on the Thursday he and the Disciples made their way to a house in the city where Jesus had arranged they could share the Passover meal together. But during the meal one man slipped away and went to see the High Priests of the Temple who were plotting to get rid of Jesus.



After the meal Jesus wanted some time to pray to prepare himself for what was soon to happen. He led the disciples out of the city to Gethsemane.

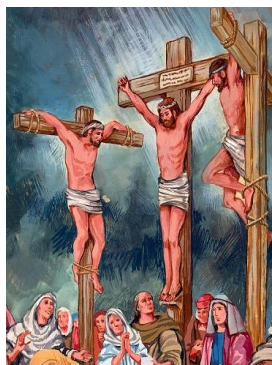


For thirty pieces of silver, Judas promised the High Priests he would lead the soldiers to Jesus so they could arrest him. In the dark he led them to Gethsemane and showed them which one was Jesus by giving him a kiss of greeting.



The Temple priests wanted Jesus to be put to death, but they had to go to the Roman Governor for that to happen. He, Pilate, tried to pass the decision off to Herod, the Jewish King. Herod sent Jesus back to Pilate who in the end gave in to the mob, who just a few days ago had greeted Jesus as a hero. Now they wanted him put to death.

After they had whipped him and put a crown of thorns on his head, the soldiers made Jesus carry his cross to the place of execution.

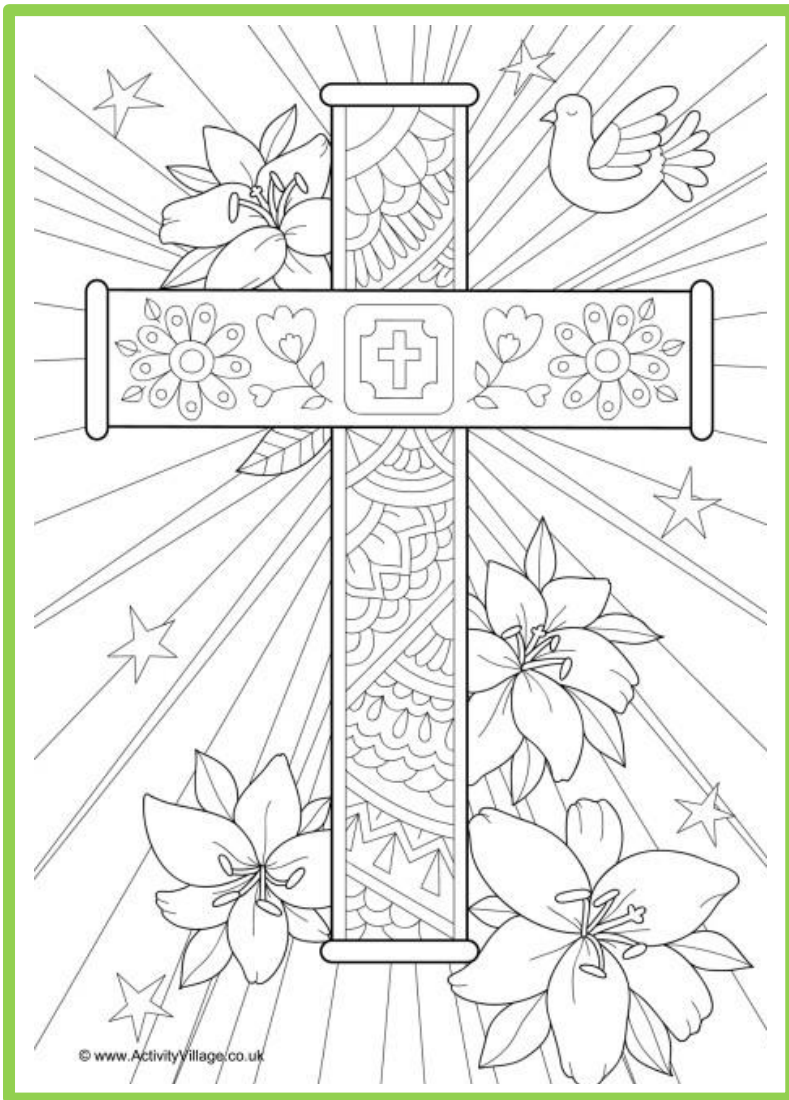


Jesus died on that cross. Two friends took his body and buried it in a cave tomb. A large stone was rolled over the entrance. When the women came on Sunday morning they found.....

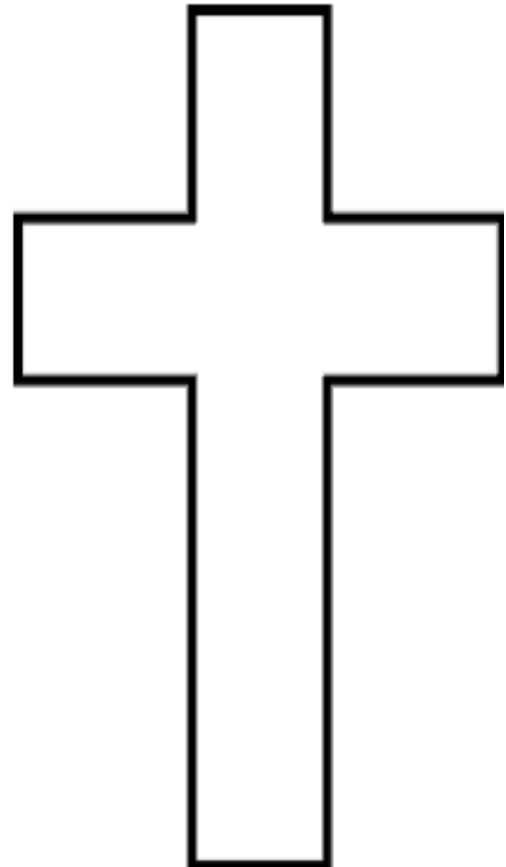


...the tomb was empty!
JESUS HAD RISEN, HE WAS ALIVE AGAIN!!

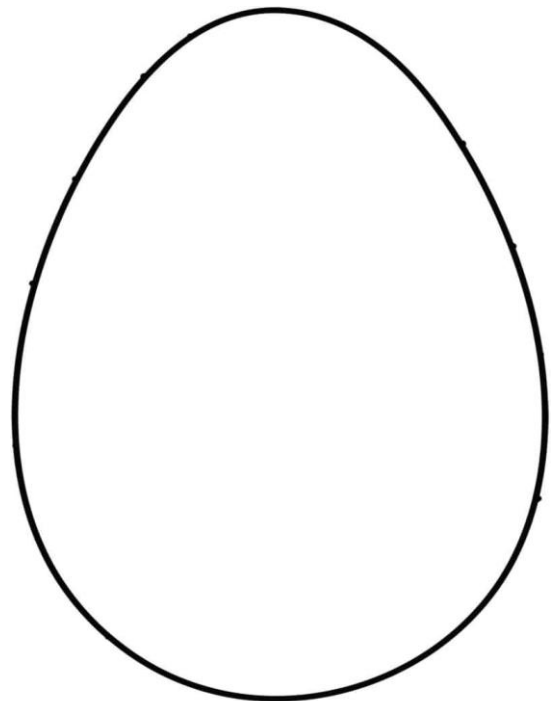
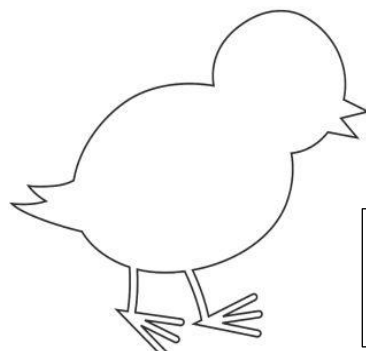
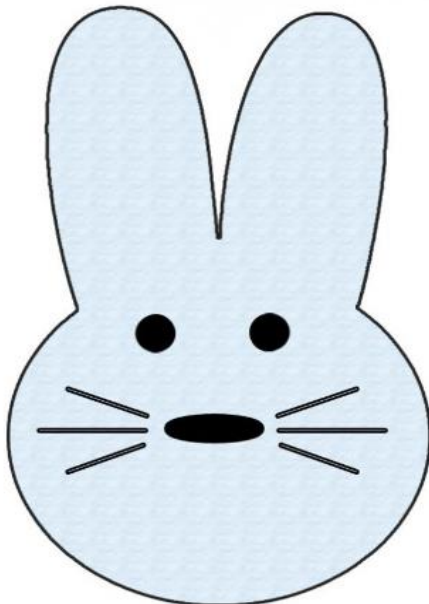
At the empty tomb, Mary Magdalene talked to a man who she thought was a gardener. But then she saw that he was really Jesus! He had risen from the dead and was alive again. Jesus proved there was a life after death for us all. Here are some Easter Cross crafts that turn a thing of pain into something beautiful.



Colour in the cross design, or trace the cross shape or the Easter egg and decorate them with crunched up tissue paper, or dabs of paint.



You could make a simple Easter/spring head band from a strip of paper to go round your head decorated with a bunny face or a chick.



Eggs, chickens and rabbits (or rather hares) are all ancient symbols of new life and can represent the new life of Christ resurrected.