

The Jesus of History

With this in mind, since I myself have carefully investigated everything from the beginning... (Luke 1v3)

Fake News. It's a big issue in recent times because the accuracy of data is fundamental to effective democracy. Every political speech has been followed up by 'fact checks', because we need to know whether something is based on reality; not wishful thinking or spin. Its been often said that the accounts of Jesus' life are truth as religious people wanted to understand it - 'Surely the gospels aren't from a reliable source' it is said. But that is exactly what they claim to be. For example, Luke prefaces his account of Jesus' life... as history. So can we confidently say they are historically credible? Yes, I believe we can. Firstly, the New Testament documents were written too early to be legends. Why not? Because huge numbers of copies were made and rapidly distributed, which meant that people throughout the Roman world would personally verify the eye witness claims. Compare this to Pliny, who wrote his Natural History in the second half of the first Century. In the world there are 7 copies of his manuscript, the oldest dating from 850 AD. Or take Caesar's Gallic Wars - there are 10 copies dating from 1000 AD. In the world there are 5366 copies, or fragments of the New Testament, dating from c.125 AD. The New Testament was written and copied too early to be legends. Secondly, we forget that the genre of the novel is an 18th Century creation. Short stories with realistic fiction just don't appear until then. And in ancient times, myths and legends were not written like that. The accounts of Jesus are striking because they read like eyewitness accounts - details of places, people and events. As C. S. Lewis, the Oxford English Professor, put it bluntly "the reader who doesn't see this has simply not learned to read." But, of course, the best thing would be to read them for yourselves!

David

Rev. David Barnsley

THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH
FROM DAVID BARNSELEY



A short service of favourite hymns, chosen by you.
First Thursdays (5th March, 2nd April, 7th May)
2pm in the Church Hall, followed by tea and cakes.

Men's Group



Friday 3rd April
Meal & DVD

Email men@littleeatonchurch.co.uk for more info

ALL IN FOR CHRIST
ALL IN ON SPORT
ALL IN IT TOGETHER

Annual Meeting

Thursday 30th April | 7.30pm
Church Hall

Please join us to give thanks for the past year
at St. Paul's and to hear about our plans for
the future.

Did you know St Paul's Church is
on Facebook? Search for 'St Paul's
Church Little Eaton' and follow us.



The Glorious King

Lent Course starting Thursday 5th March
7.30pm, Church Hall

Prepare for Easter by reflecting on Jesus.

February-March

February

Mon 17	7.30pm	P.C.C.
Mon 24	7.00pm	Impact
Tues 25	10.00am	Growth Group
	7.30pm	Ignition
Thurs 27	7.30pm	Growth Groups
	7.45pm	Life Explored course
Fri 28	6.45pm	Men's Group— <i>Escape</i>

March

Mon 2	7.00pm	Impact
Tues 3	7.30pm	Ignition
Thur 5	2.00pm	Songs of Praise
	7.30pm	Lent Course, Church Hall
Sun 8	2.30pm	Annual Memorial Service
Mon 9	7.00pm	Impact
Tues 10	7.30pm	Ignition
Thur 12	7.30pm	Lent Course
Mon 16	7.00pm	Impact
Tue 17	7.30pm	Ignition
Thur 19	7.30pm	Lent Course
Mon 23	7.00pm	Impact
Tues 24	7.30pm	Ignition
Thur 26	7.30pm	Lent Course
Mon 30	7.00pm	Impact
Tues 31	7.30pm	Ignition

April

Thur 2	2.00pm	Songs of Praise
Fri 3	7.30pm	Men's Group
	7.30pm	Lent Course
Wed 8	7.45pm	Joint Prayer Meeting St Paul's
Mon 20 -	10am and	Derby Bible Week
Thur 23	7.30pm	
Mon 27	7.00pm	Impact
Tues 28	7.30pm	Ignition
Thur 30	7.30pm	Annual Parochial Church Meeting, Church Hall

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Annual Memorial Service

A service of remembrance for the bereaved



Sunday 8th March | 2.30pm
Followed by tea and cake.

Holy Week Services

Wed 8th April 6.30pm | St. Paul's

Thurs 9th April 6.30pm | St. Alkmund's

GOOD FRIDAY

10am Family Service | St. Paul's

2pm Hour at the Cross | St. Alkmund's

EASTER SUNDAY

10am St. Alkmund's

4.30pm St. Paul's

6.30pm St. Alkmund's



Vicar and Newsletter Editor:

David Barnsley 31 Derby Road, Duffield, Belper.

t: 585 190 e: vicar@litleeatonchurch.co.uk

Please note: David's usual day off is a Friday.

www.littleeatonchurch.co.uk

SERVICES AT ST PAUL'S

Feb 16th	4.30pm	Afternoon Service
Feb 23rd	4.30pm	Afternoon Service
Mar 1st	4.30pm	Holy Communion
Mar 8th	4.30pm	Afternoon Service
Mar 15th	4.30pm	Afternoon Service
Mar 22nd	4.30pm	Afternoon Service
Mar 29th	4.30pm	Afternoon Service
Apr 5th	4.30pm	Holy Communion
Apr 10th	10.00am	Good Friday Family Service
Apr 12th	4.30pm	Easter Sunday Service
Apr 19th	4.30pm	Afternoon Service
Apr 26th	4.30pm	Afternoon Service

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

0-2's	Creché	Sunday at 4.30pm
	Church Hall, Little Eaton	
3-11's	Explorers	Sunday at 4.30pm
	Church Hall, Little Eaton	
Y7-9	Impact	Mondays at 7.00pm
	St Alkmund's Parish Hall, Duffield	
Y10-13	Ignition	Tuesdays at 7.30pm
	St Alkmund's Parish Hall, Duffield	
Y7-13	Salt Café	1st Sunday at 5.30pm
	St Alkmund's Parish Hall, Duffield	

REGULAR CHURCH ACTIVITIES

Growth Groups (meet fortnightly)	
Tuesday 10am	Thursday 7.45 pm
Church Prayer Meeting	1 st Wednesday
Duffield Church Hall/St Paul's	7.30 pm
Songs of Praise	1 st Thursday
Church Hall	2.00 pm
Third Thursdays	3 rd Thursday
Church Hall	2.00 pm

