Clergy Letter: What’s the point of Easter?

*If you stop and ask someone in the street what Easter is about, you might be surprised how unsure people are. Many are confused by the ‘relationship’ between the Easter Bunny and God! (****Is*** *there a connection?!) And where do we find chocolate eggs in the Bible?*

*It’s wonderful to enjoy the festivities with chocolate eggs (and in fact we will be encouraging the children to hunt for them after the Easter Day service). But there is a far more wonderful point to Easter.*

So as we celebrate, a question might be: ***What difference can the resurrection of Jesus Christ make to my life in 2020?***

***Some suggestions…………***

***My past is forgiven:***

Have you ever been half-way through a project and wanted to start again? In life we all have regrets about things we have done, said or thought. The good news is that Jesus died to forgive these things:

*‘All sins forgiven, the slate wiped clean, that old arrest warrant cancelled and nailed to Christ’s cross.’* (Colossians 2:14 The Message Edition).

 The resurrection is the guarantee that we can know Jesus’ pardon and forgiveness. So, no matter how heavy a load of guilt and unforgiveness we are carrying, we can pass that burden over to Jesus and start afresh.

***My present is under control:***

How often do we feel: *‘My life is out of control.’* We can’t control life, but God can!

God promises us the power that we need to face any situation, - and especially when we meet desperation point - as we trust Him:

*‘I can do all this through Him who gives me strength.’* (Philippians 4:13).

***My future is secure:***

Death is the great certainty – it is going to happen to all of us at some point.

Yet by his resurrection, Jesus overcame death, that we might experience the life of heaven, both now and for eternity.

*‘I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in Me will live, even though they die; and whoever lives by believing in Me will never die’.* (John 11:25,26).

We don’t need to fear death; because of the resurrection we can claim life in abundance for eternity, starting this side of death and continuing for ever on the other side as well.

These wonderful Christian truths can be claimed by anyone and it certainly something to celebrate with Chocolate Easter Eggs – whether or not, they arrived via the Easter Bunny!

God bless you and your family this Lent and Easter Season,

Your Rector

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