



Broadfield Christian Fellowship

Broadfield Community Centre, Broadfield Barton, Crawley. Reg. Charity no. 1081321

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NewsFlash!

Sunday 25th March 2018

This morning	10.30am: Morning Worship in the Social Hall <i>Worship: Vivienne Evans; Speaker: Ian Johnson</i>
<i>We offer a warm welcome to all visitors to our worship today If you would like to know more about us, please ask one of the leaders</i>	
Monday	6.45pm: Prayer time in the Church (<i>for one hour</i>)
Tuesday	7.00pm: House Group at Caroline's home 7.45pm: House Group at Ben & Pauline's home
Wednesday	9.15am: Coffee Shop in the Social Hall
Good Friday	10.00am: Depart from church for march of witness to ... 11.00am: Town-wide celebration in Queen's Square <i>Join with Christians from around Crawley to proclaim the Easter message</i>
Saturday	10.00am: Broadfield Prayer Walk, returning to the Centre for hot cross buns 2.00–3.30pm: <i>Messy Easter</i> in the Church and Community Centre
Easter Sunday	6.30am: Dawn communion at Tilgate lakeside 9.00am: Open up and set up hall for worship 9.30am: Prayer meeting 10.00am: Tea and coffee with light breakfast 10.30am: Easter family Worship in the Social Hall 7.00pm: Town-wide service at Crawley Baptist Church

Thought for the Week – from Caroline

Palm Sunday: Don't Be a Fickle Sunday Morning Cheerleader

They embraced him as a king, and yet only five days later the crowds were yelling, "Crucify him!" (Matthew 21:1-11)

What would it look like if the biblical accounts of Palm Sunday were taking place in our generation today? Imagine Jesus entering New York, Miami, Los Angeles, or Seattle during Holy Week. I'm sure the crowds would welcome him with awe – especially if the network news channels had just reported him raising Lazarus from the dead. We'd strike up the band, ribbon the streets, and cue the parade. People would be intrigued. Just like in the Gospels, the whole world would come out to see him (John 12:19). Folks would be lined up by the droves hoping to capture a selfie with Jesus passing by behind them, so that they could post it on their social media profiles.

But this is something I am equally sure of: by the end of the week, we'd have him nailed to a cross, too.

Why? Because the Kingdom Jesus came to establish still threatens the kingdoms of this world – the kingdoms of lust, greed, power, self-promotion – even religious bigotry (exemplified by the Pharisees in Jesus's time).

Have you come to experience in your lifetime that we, human beings, can be a strangely fickle species? You can be loved one day and hated the next simply because of one petty action, an offensive statement, or a politically charged tweet. Loyalties in our day can be rather capricious and

temperamental. In that regard, not much has changed since Jesus passed by those adulated crowds on Palm Sunday.

Palms were a symbol of royalty and nobility in Jesus's time, and everyone who lined the streets of Jerusalem had a different reason for waving those palms. Some were political activists hoping that Jesus would overthrow opposing parties, and ultimately liberate Israel from Roman rule. His disciples were expecting Jesus to establish himself as an earthly king. Many were curious onlookers casually joining in on the cultural festivities of the day. For others this was a moment of desperation; they may have been sick or had loved ones who were dying, and they waved their branches in faith, hoping for a miracle.

In the parade that day, only Jesus knew why he was coming into Jerusalem – to give up His life as the Saviour of the world. He had a mission, while everyone else had an agenda.

You know, it is a lot easier to cheer for Jesus than it is to lay down our lives for Jesus. It's easy to praise the name of Jesus and sing "Hosanna" when it doesn't cost us anything. Posting inspirational Bible verses for the world to read doesn't require much of us – certainly no degree of sacrifice. As Adam Clarke says, "How strange is it that these same people should, about five days later, change their hosannas for, Away with him! Crucify him! Crucify him! How fickle is the multitude! Even when they get right, there is but little hope that they will continue so long."

This Palm Sunday let's be reminded that our worship must cost us something to go beyond Sunday morning cheerleading. *(From jimmylarche.com)*

Diary Dates

Friday 20th April–Sunday 22nd April: Church Weekend at Ashburnham Place – "Going and Growing with the Holy Spirit" with Phil Tate – booking forms are still available on the table, please give to Irma with any payments

Saturday 28th July–Saturday 4th August: Revive 2018 – "Breakthrough" – at Ashburnham Place. Bookings are now open at www.ichthus.org.uk/revive – 10% discount for full payment by Tuesday 10th April (deadline extended)