



Northall Baptist Church – 200 years and still going.

A little Church with strong local links.

New Life

Our garden box outside the church is showing the first signs of spring: small daffodils. So pretty, vivid yellow against the green grass lifting your spirit as you see them. Very soon we will see lambs in the surrounding fields. There is something hopeful about new life appearing in full colour from the previously cold, seemingly barren earth. It is fascinating to see the herds of sheep slowly being renewed after a period of waiting.

At this time of year, we think about the Easter story: Jesus coming as a child, growing, experiencing life changes from a child to an adult, sharing teaching about God and showing practical signs of the power of God, dying on the cross, then rising to new life. We are so precious that God chose to give his Son so that we can have new life both here on earth and in the life to come. *John 3 v 16 tells us that God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. God loves everyone.*

Whatever our age, sometimes our circumstances aren't good, bad things happen or there are disappointments. Sometimes people upset us or situations make us angry or sad. Perhaps we are not doing our best or are restricted by problems. We may not be popular among our peers or the place where we live is not right. There may be someone close to us who is not supportive. We might have made bad decisions. All these things can cause worry and drain our life and energy.

Be encouraged that this hard time might be the dark place of gestation where you are learning, growing, changing and will ultimately emerge as a stronger person, who forgives, moves on, makes changes or finally gets help that brings vitality and freshness to your life. If we choose to invite him, God can be pivotal in this process. Even if your life is completely happy, you are contented and seemingly have everything you need, in reflective moments, you may still have a sense that there must be more to life.

This spring as you see nature bursting out in the leaves, flowers, lambs and birdsong remember that there is hope and new life available for you too. You are created with unique, special gifts made to interact with and help others. You are so loved that God sent his Son, Jesus, to die for you so that you can have a full, brilliant, hopeful, amazing life with God beside you every step of the way.

You are not defined by

- the labels that you wear or carry
- what you spend your time doing
- who you are with
- your bad choices
- the amount of money you have

If you would like to know more about God and the new life you have in him, why not join us on Sundays at 11 am. You will get a warm welcome. Refreshments served afterwards. For those unable to attend in person we also stream our services.



Our Garden Box

For those interested in the history of Northall Baptist Church, a free copy of the booklet, Rebels in Green Pastures can be supplied or downloaded from our website: <http://northallbaptistchurch.org/>
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