

# FAITH CONFIRMED 2019



Led by Damian Miles & Jo Winn-Smith

[www.stmaryschurchthorpe.co.uk](http://www.stmaryschurchthorpe.co.uk)

Diocese of  
**Guildford** 

TRANSFORMING CHURCH  
TRANSFORMING LIVES

© St Mary's Church Thorpe 2019



# Jesus – Life & Ministry



**Do you know any bible stories of Jesus and his ministry?**

**Do you have a favourite?**

Jesus – a human being like us  
*and the Word became flesh and lived among us* (John 1:14)

Jesus – Son of God  
*The Father and I are one* (John 10:30)

Jesus – Window onto God  
*If you know me you would know my Father also* (John 8:19)

Jesus – the Miracle Worker

Jesus – the Teacher

Jesus – the Shepherd

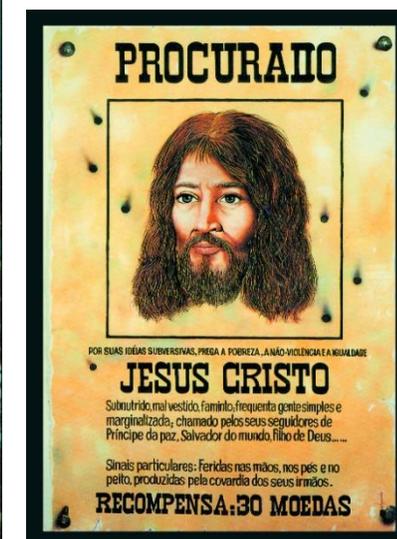
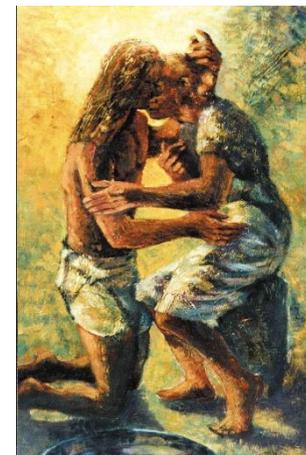


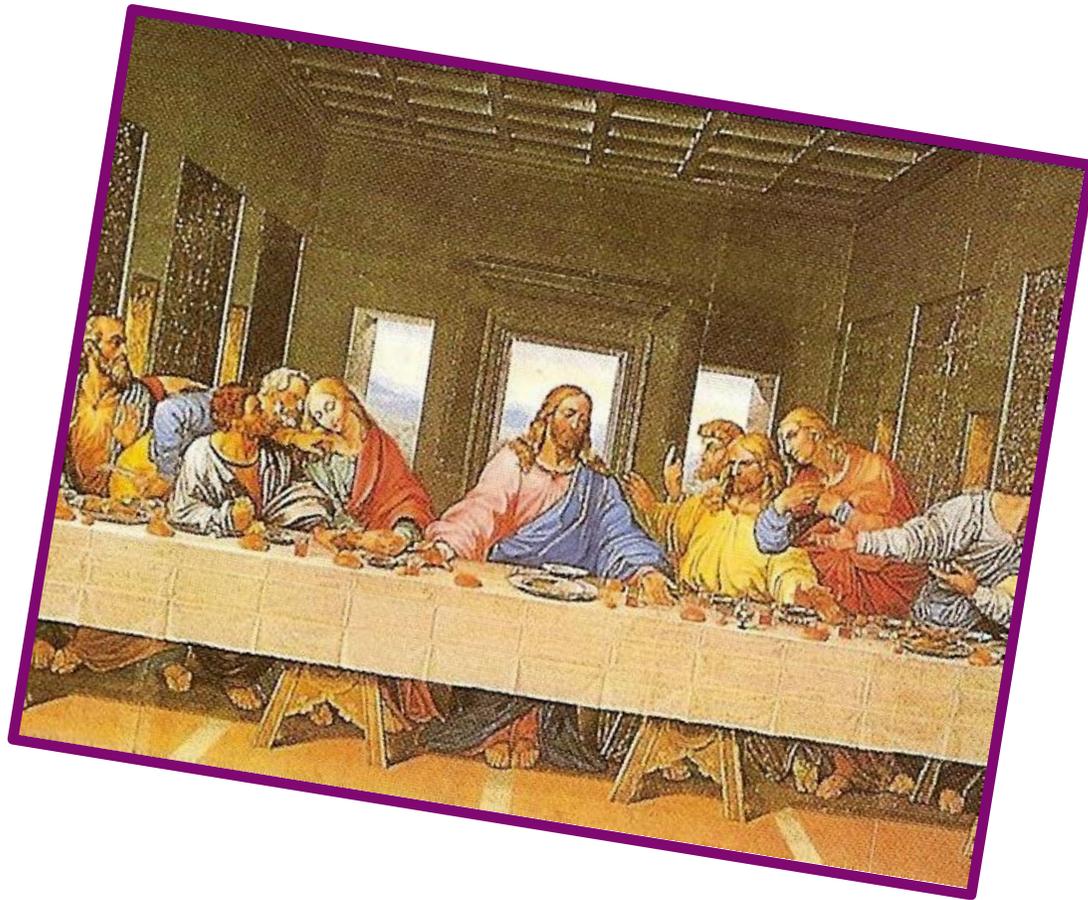
# Images of Jesus

Art helps us to reflect upon Jesus and his ministry.

*Take a picture from the table and look at it. Have a think...*

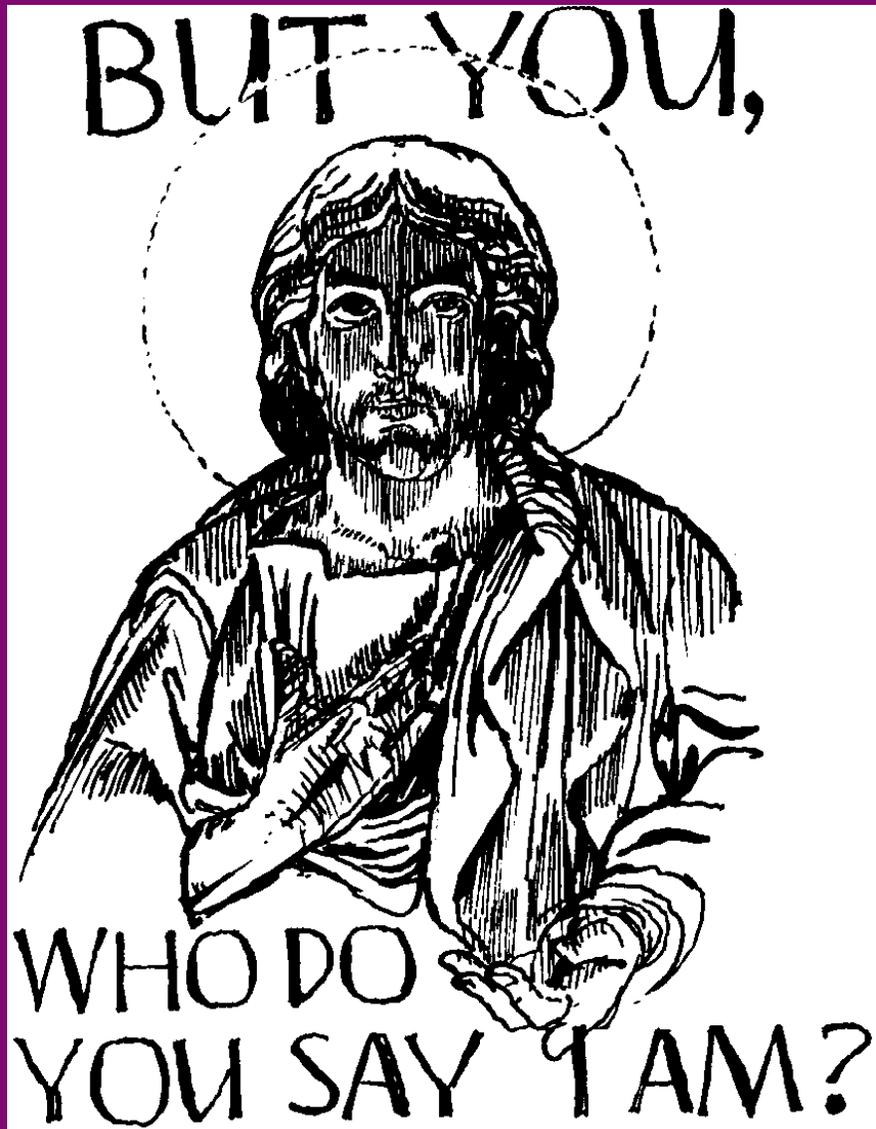
- *What does it depict?*
- *Is an aspect of Jesus' ministry portrayed and if so what?*
- *What does Jesus mean to you?*





## A busy ministry over a short period

- He was only about 30 years old when he began preaching which lasted 3 years until he was crucified.
- During his ministry he taught about God and the values of God's kingdom, prayed, healed, loved, forgave and renewed relationships.
- He also challenged those who had their priorities wrong and was not afraid to stand up for justice, honesty and truth.



## Who then is Jesus?

Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, 'Who do people say that the Son of Man is?' And they said, 'Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.' He said to them, 'But who do you say that I am?' Simon Peter answered, 'You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.'

Matthew 16: 13-16 (NRSV)



## Jesus is a window onto God

- Jesus helps us to see the God we can't see.
- Jesus performs miracles beyond the wildest dreams of those he meets: healing, feeding, even raising people from the dead!
- Jesus has the authority of God to bring about life in its fullest sense.
- Jesus makes God known to us in human form, revealing the love of the Father for every single person.
- Jesus continues to bring about life today for us if we choose.

I see no escape from the dilemma: either Jesus is fraudulent, or his claim is true; either we judge him for being terribly amiss, or we let him judge us.

*Arthur Michael Ramsey,  
Introducing the Christian Faith, p. 41*

# Who then is Jesus?

- Is he a misguided fool?
- Is he a great teacher?
- Is he a wonder worker?
- Is he the very best friend you could ever have?
- Is he God come down to earth – God among us?

What is your answer?



## Jesus is a teacher

The New Testament as a whole (especially the Gospels) help us to know about Jesus' life and the work he was about. Through them He teaches us about:

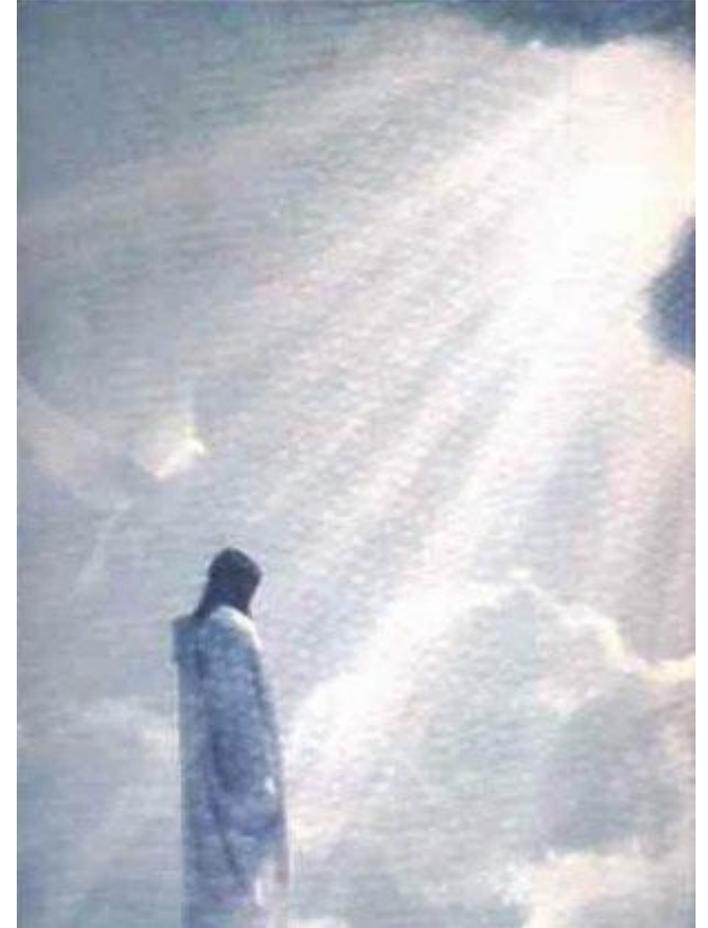
- The Good News
- God's kingdom
- God's justice & mercy
- Forgiveness
- A right way of living
- Community & fellowship
- Discipleship
- How to pray
- Holy Communion (Bread & Wine)





## How can we understand Jesus...

- He is fully human and yet fully God (Divine)
- God among us, Emmanuel.
- He brings a message of the Kingdom – repent and be faithful to God.
- He brings healing & is a miracle worker – the miracles demonstrate his power and yet they point to a change within the lives of those who encounter Jesus.
- Jesus shows us something wonderful about God – He breaks down the old barrier of sin that we may draw closer to God who loves us and calls us home to him.



# The Jesus Prayer

The Jesus Prayer (also known as The Prayer) is a short formulaic prayer used by Christians world-wide, often repeated many times (especially within the Eastern churches).

Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on me, a sinner.

