

A reflection for March

The light is amazing in March. Days are now getting so much longer. And at the end of the day, the low sun seems to make everything glow. Light brings things to life – including the colours and contrasts.

And those contrasts include darker places and shadows, picked out and emphasised by the directness of light.

This year, March also takes us through the journey to Easter. We can anticipate the light, the good news, the hope and joy of resurrection. But we still journey through the darker places and shadows. We go through mixed messages and emotions of Palm Sunday crowds – cheering, or jeering? We face the confusion of disciples and followers, watching their hopes disappear. We feel something of the agony of abandonment and pain of Jesus on the cross. The light of Jesus brought out the starkness of people's shadow selves, and Jesus went through that darkness, the very worst. Only then does the light shines more brightly, with risen hope.

The light is amazing in March. Longer, brighter, bringing everything to life. May we follow Jesus through the darkness and light, the shadows and sunrises, of his journey and ours.