

FROM ROBBING THE RICH TO BETRAYING JESUS: ROBIN HOOD TO PLAY JUDAS ISCARIOT!

The man known as 'Nottingham's Robin Hood,' Ezekiel Bone, is to play Judas Iscariot in the forthcoming production of 'The Nottingham Passion,' being staged in St. Mary's in the Lace Market on 31st March, 1st April.

The sections of the Bible that tell of Jesus' final days of suffering and death are commonly referred to as the "Passion narratives" and performing these events in the run up to Easter is a long established tradition across the UK and Europe. This new production follows in that tradition and will use words, music, action and the stunning architecture of St. Mary's to tell the events of that fateful week.

Ezekiel, real name Ade Andrews, is better known across the county for playing Robin Hood in his multi-award winning Robin Hood Town Tour.

He says: "On the Tour I spend a lot of time in St Mary's churchyard. This is a great way to return the favour to St. Mary's and help breathe life into the communal and cultural life of the Lace Market and Nottingham, as a historical City."

The production is the brainchild of the Revd. James Pacey (38), a Church of England Priest, currently working as a Hospital Chaplain at Nottingham University Hospitals, who prior to ordination worked as a theatre director.

He commented:

"The Easter story is something that many people are familiar with but we hope that by retelling it as drama, people will be freshly gripped in the events of the first Good Friday and Easter."

The all age cast is drawn from people from across the county. Playing the role of Jesus is Simon Carter a writer/performer in Calverton who says:

"It's a privilege to be taking part in the Nottingham Passion and to get the chance to play this role. I'll do my very best to try to show people something of who Jesus was and is and why the events of passion week were so awesome and extraordinary."

"This has the potential to be a genuinely powerful piece of live theatre and for audience members, of any faith and none, to engage with this story in a fresh and innovative way."

James Pacey goes onto say:

“It is great to have so many people of so many ages involved. This is a real community initiative: for the community, by the community.”

The production is based on the hugely popular Newark Passion performed in 2011 and then presented at Southwell Minster in 2012. Subsequent performances have been staged in Cambridge and Hucknall, all to sell out audiences.

Pacey added:

“We aim to welcome everyone: whether that is committed Christians who want to experience a fresh take on these events or those who might be wondering what all the fuss over Easter is about.”

Performances are on Friday 31st March and Saturday 1st April in St. Mary’s in the Lace Market. Tickets are £5 for adults, £4 for under 14s with a family ticket at £15

From Nottingham Tourism Centre, St. Peter’s Church Office or at www.ticketsource.co.uk/nottinghampassion and are available now.

For further information visit www.facebook.com/nottinghampassion

ENDS

NOTE TO EDITORS

Further information and images from previous productions can be obtained from James Pacey (revjamespacey@gmail.com)

075950 353 42

31 Lime Grove

Stapleford

NG9 7GF