

Guards, Guards!

- *Bad surprise*

- Talk about surprises and how they can change our perspective on things

Before

- Explore who guards were and how they'd have viewed things before the resurrection
 - outsiders, Romans, hard-nosed, superior
 - bad posting, hated - cf NI or Iraq...

After

- ...and afterwards?
 - money
 - silence

Ladies, Ladies!

- *Good surprise*

Before

- Explore who the women were, and how they viewed things before the resurrection
 - hopes - dashed
 - sadness

After

- ...and afterwards?
 - uncertainty and disbelief
 - hope dawning

Us...

Before and After?

- Do we come with certainty?
 - do we come with questions...?
 - how does this faith that I've always believed make sense of my day to day experience?
 - the angels said to the women "do not be afraid" but I'm still afraid of the future, of death, of pain...
 - I lose and regain and lose and regain things like: peace, sense of purpose, joy
- So our experience matches that of the first disciples - the uncertainties of our lives meeting and engaging with the glorious new life our Lord brings