



ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH OF THE HOLY FAMILY

Diocese of Plymouth, Reg. Charity no 213227 (cheques made payable to PRCDTR Penwith R.C Parish)

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(and see www.explorechurches.org/church/immaculate-conception-our-lady-penzance)

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THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF OUR LADY

Rosevean Road, Penzance, Cornwall TR18 2DX

Safeguarding Representative: Anyone wishing to contact

Safeguarding Rep. please go via the Parish Office 01736362619

OUR LADY, STAR OF THE SEA

Lower Strand, St Mary's, Isles of Scilly. TR21 OPS

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ST MARY'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL: 01736 330005

www.st-marys-rc-pz.cornwall.sch.uk Mrs Demelza Bolton

THE SACRED HEART AND ST. IA

Tregenna Hill, St. Ives, TR26 1SE.

Safeguarding Representatives: Anyone wishing to contact

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ST. JOSEPH THE WORKER

Commercial Road, Hayle, TR27 4DE.

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Large Print Newsletter & Hymns: Chairs with arms:
are all available on request if you need them

SECOND WEEK OF EASTER – ALLELUIA: THE LORD IS RISEN (A Psalm 2)

ALL CHURCHES ARE NOW CLOSED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

In PENZANCE I offer a Private Mass each morning at 8.30 a.m. Sundays at 11 a.m.

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER: OCTAVE DAY OF EASTER: LOW & DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

Mass intentions this week

19th Second Sunday of Easter 11 am *Parish and People*
Divine Mercy Chaplet 3 p.m.

20th Monday 8.30 a.m. *Maura O'Toole (ill)*

21st Tuesday 8.30 a.m. St Anselm *Bernie & Edwin (ill)*

22nd Wednesday 8.30 a.m. *Imelda Donnelly RIP*

23rd Thursday 8.30 a.m. **St George, Patron of England and Protector of the Realm**
Bill Gadd RIP

24th Friday 8.30 a.m. *Leo Pilley (92 B'day)*

25th Saturday 8.30 a.m. **St Mark** *Terry Vearncombe RIP*

26th THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER 11.00 a.m.
Parish and People

It is a great privilege for a priest to be able to offer the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass daily, and you can all seek the fruits of the Sacrifice of the Mass through a spiritual communion, using the prayer below This reminds us that Jesus does not abandon His people, but draws near, indeed comes into the heart of each one, if we turn to him.

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love you above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if you were already there, and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

My dear People, The lockdown continues for at least another three weeks. We all need an injection of **HOPE**, which is often the neglected of the triad of Faith, Hope and Love. The Queen, both in her address to the Nation and Commonwealth on Palm Sunday, and an audio address at Easter spoke of the Easter message as "one of new hope and fresh purpose" with the forces of "light and life overcoming those of darkness and death." Her Majesty prayed: "May the living flame of the Easter hope be a steady guide as we face the future."

That Easter/ Paschal candle, the Risen Christ, the Light of the World is lit each day as I offer Mass for you all.

This past week has been marked by various anniversaries that I feel speak very much to us in the present situation and lockdown, and giving all of us hope for the future.

A year ago, on 15th April 2019, Monday in Holy Week, the devastating fire broke out in **Notre Dame Cathedral, Paris**. Within hours the French President promised to rebuild, and on Wednesday evening this past week, there was a very interesting programme about the situation one year on. A huge task, but moving forward.

That same date, 15th April, but 75 years ago Bergen-Belsen was liberated. There was an article in the paper this week entitled "A sight you would hope to never see again" and one of the survivors Mala Tribich recently met one of her liberators, former British Soldier Nathanael Fiennes, 21st Lord Saye & Sele, who will be 100 in September. There have been programmes about the liberation as Richard Dimbleby was a BBC reporter there. 'It is so important we mark this because we must never forget.' Life, we know does go on, and as the gospel reminds us, 'of two people, one is taken, the other left' (Matthew 24: 40/41)

That same year, 1945, on Low Sunday, when the Gestapo came to take Pastor Dietrich Bonhoeffer away to be executed, he just had time to whisper a final message to a fellow prisoner to be relayed to his friend, Bishop George Bell of Chichester: "This is the end, but for me the beginning... Our victory is certain."

Last Easter Sunday 21st April 2019 news broke of the terrorist attack on Catholic churches and other places in Colombo and elsewhere in Sri Lanka. 259 were killed and more than 500 injured. Since those tragic events The Catholic community has tried to rebuild, pointing out how hope can come out of the ashes of despair.

Fr. Jude Raj Fernando, Rector of St Anthony's Shrine, who is lucky to be alive given the bomb that nearly killed him, says "Our faith is stronger than bombs. My first words were "Father forgive them." The Easter story offer a hope that the darkest hour is the one "just before the dawn"

Here below is my homily for Easter Sunday last year. I very rarely keep homilies, most are deleted the same day. But I do keep a few, not sure why at the time, but this proves their usefulness. I pray with all the above our faith hope, and love are strengthened.

Homily: Easter Day 21st April 2019.

One word has been running around my head all this week: **Resurgam, I will rise:** that was before we had heard about the fire at Notre Dame, which only underlined for me the great truth of Easter Day. In March 1941 when our Cathedral City of Plymouth was severely bombed, our Cathedral was mainly spared, though not Notre Dame School which was right next door to it, and was entirely burnt out;. The main Anglican church of St Andrew in Plymouth was, like the school, entirely burnt out, and over the main door there was a beam with the word **Resurgam** scratched on it, and it is still there today I understand. Prior to that, on the night of 14th November 1940 (80 years ago this year) a new word entered the language of Europe-Coventrate: meaning to destroy utterly: as the City of Coventry was the first attempt ever made in warfare to destroy a city in one single operation from the air. On the morning of the 15th the full horror of destruction was revealed. The familiar places in the centre of the ancient city had ceased to exist.

The silence was the silence of shock and horror. It was also the silence of crisis – crisis: a city's response to the hate which accompanied the onslaught.

It was a cross roads. The choice was to take the road to vengeance and hatred, or to take the road to forgiveness and renewal. Among the small group who met with the Provost of the Cathedral the following morning was Jock Forbes. Jock was a stonemason and caretaker of the cathedral grounds. I quote; "He was a devout Roman Catholic, and though probably unlearned in profound theology, yet out of a grounding in the basics of the Christian faith, he did a simple thing which dramatized the central theological truth, that when human suffering is identified with the crucifixion of Jesus, it demands the uttering of the words 'Father Forgive,' and implies the will to work for a resurrection. That is the rhythm of the Christian faith – Crucifixion – Forgiveness –Resurrection. Jack Forbes found two partly burned beams from the 14th century roof, and fastened them into the shape of a cross and planted it onto the blackened mound of destruction, so transforming it into a Calvary.

The shock that went round the world on Monday night in Paris, led the next day to the Coventry situation, that meeting agreeing Resurgam. To rebuild, and as we know offers of money have been pouring in ever since. Naturally, as ever, there are those who question; should it be rebuilt; why shouldn't that money go to the poor? Such we hear, and such it was in last Monday's gospel, when Mary of Bethany poured very expensive oil of nard over the feet of Jesus, wiping them with her hair. Judas, the betrayer, said why wasn't this ointment sold and the money given to the poor?

The gospel adds he said this, not because he cared about the poor, and to which Jesus answered 'Leave her alone. You have the poor with you always.'

It is a criticism I'm used to, as we refurbish or complete and look after all our buildings in the parish. People can and will give to what they want, and if they want to give all

they have to the poor, so be it, but as Jesus says 'leave others alone.'

Some of the shock and horror; moments of crisis were all there in that first Triduum of Thursday, Friday and Easter Day, and as the gospel today reminds us 'till this moment they failed to understand that he must rise from the dead.' However the great truth was that the Lord was indeed risen, and our faith is exactly that: Christ is risen.

The vision many will have of Notre Dame in Paris is of the large gold cross shining out, and others too of our Lady, still standing, and looking quite clean amidst the blackness of the charred ruins. All shining out in hope.

Resurgam: I will rise: how Easter 2019 rightly gives us so much to confirm us in our walk with the Lord in the great week that has passed before us, and the 50 days we have to celebrate the glory of his Resurrection.

Alleluia: The Lord is risen. He is risen indeed: Let our alleluia's ring.

I try and keep in touch, a lot of phone calls and many emails. Do keep in touch with each other if you have contact details, as we are bound together in our common faith. I have Mass intentions up to the first few days of May, and some others looking ahead. If you wish for any intentions just be in touch by email, post or telephone, and don't worry about stipend until we are on the move again.

I am very grateful to those who have sent Easter cards and offerings. Many thanks to you.

The Pope's Prayer Intention for April:

Freedom from Addiction. That those suffering from addiction may be helped and accompanied.

All our parishioners: For evangelisation in the parish. For all across the world caught up in natural disaster and Corona virus, and all NHS & all other emergency and vital workers and services.

For all on our Sacramental programmes of Journey in Faith: First Reconciliation and Holy Communion, & Confirmation.

Our own sick, housebound & those in Hospitals or Hospice: Ray & Christine Blaker, Lynda Cripps, Christine Bunt, Tom Dauncey Jnr, Jackie Corsi, Sue Rowies, Hugo (3), Tony Noonan, Caroline Schofield, Grace Bailey, Fr. Richard Finn O.P. Kathy & Bob Carr, Roy Mulholland, Patsy & John Stevens, John Chamberlain, Christine Knowles, Audrey Evans, Anna Andrews, Sheila Devey. Elliot Slade, Lisa Thomas, Barbara Drew, Eileen Carson, Tony King, Daniel McWilliams, Len Hall, Dee Pascoe Carrie Williams, & Terry Newman and those with virus, Maura O'Toole (Bishop Mark's mother) & Bridget (Mary Jasper's daughter) and all lonely in the present crisis.

For those who have died, Derek Andrews, Imelda Donnelly & Fr Geoffrey Nixon, and for all who mourn.

Please continue looking at our website, full of up-to-date information, and where you can stream Mass from various venues.

As priests over 70 (Fr David & I) the Bishop will not allow us to make any visits. **If someone needs the Last Rites, ring me, and one of the younger priests will come.**

DAY BY DAY: I know some of you value this, and all the Lent ones went. Eastertide are here, and if you would like a copy be in touch and I can post one to you.

Smile lines- Hope to cheer you up! Unanswered prayer

The ministers five-year-old daughter noticed that her father always prayed for a moment before starting his sermon. One day she asked him why. 'Well' he said, proud that his daughter paid so much attention, "I'm asking the Lord to help me preach a good sermon."

"How come he doesn't answer you?" she asked.