



HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC CHURCH

Dousland Road, Yelverton, PL20 6AZ

Priest In Charge: *Fr Martin Stone*

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Week Commencing Sunday 12th April 2020 (Year A)

Easter Sunday

(Readings: Ac 10;34.37-43 Ps 117 Col 3:1-4 Sequence Jn 20:1-9)

There will be no Public acts of worship until further notice in response to the Coronavirus pandemic. However, Mass will be celebrated but without a congregation.

Sadly the new government measures mean our churches have to be closed. The reason is that the virus could be spread via surfaces in the church into which consecutive people come into contact even if they are not there at the same time, and also there is the possibility of people gathering informally for prayer together which seems a good idea at first sight but would actually be an opportunity to spread the virus.

Happy Easter from Fr Martin

May I take this opportunity of wishing you all a very Happy and Joy Filled Easter.

This year, during Lent, we have very much walked in the footsteps of Christ in isolation and with dark clouds looming on the horizon. But, as with every cloud having a silver lining, there have been so many moments of grace and hope and unexpected moments of kindness that have been a real encouragement. The actions of Veronica, who wiped the face of our Lord, have been made manifest in so many different ways across the parish and across the world.

So in recognising the path we have travelled my sincere prayer for you all is that God may truly bless you with grace upon grace. While we may be physically distancing ourselves, may we all celebrate the abundance of new life which is Christ's gift to us all. Happy Easter!

Mass Intentions this Week

Saturday*	11 th April	Easter Vigil	- People of the Parish
Sunday	12 th April	Easter Sunday	- Bishop Mark O'Toole Intention
Tuesday	14 th April	Easter Tuesday	- Mary Lawlor & deceased members of the Lawlor Family.
Wednesday	15 th April	Easter Wednesday	- Private Intention
Thursday	16 th April	Easter Thursday	- Private Intention
Friday	17 th April	Easter Friday	- Joan Corley RIP
Saturday*	18 th April	Easter Saturday	- Victims of the Coronavirus RIP
Sunday	19 th April	Second Sunday of Easter	- People of the Parish

We remember in Prayer

Anniversaries: Kathleen G Morgan, Martha M Shannon, Edwardus McQuade, Helen P Vaux and Anthony E Mills.

Please pray for the sick and/or housebound including, Margaret Phelps, Jill White, Nora Steel, Margaret Bradford & Margaret Davies.

Daily Mass is being streamlined at 11am from Plymouth Cathedral and is available on the Cathedral website. This is the one place where we can join together each day as a Diocesan family, individually making our own act of spiritual communion. In addition, every afternoon at 4.30pm there will be a time of prayer before the Blessed Sacrament again available online.

All information and letters from Bishop Mark O'Toole and others are available on our Holy Cross website under the section entitled **Coronavirus**. There are also prayers including a Spiritual Communion.

Parish Notices: -

Please note Father Martin is now available and back in the Parish.

If you need to call a priest for a 'dying' relative or friend, please call Fr Martin. If, for any reason, he cannot be contacted please ring either Fr Petroc Cobb 01752 721361 or Fr Jonathan Bielawski 01752 701660.

In order to help prevent the spread of the virus, priests are only visiting people when it is absolutely essential, that means only going to the dying and to conduct funerals. Please be assured if you do become critically ill from whatever cause, a priest will come and anoint you and give you absolution. You only have to ring.

All events and meetings at Holy Cross are cancelled until further notice.

The members of the **Mothers Prayers group** are also currently holding their normal **weekly** meetings online at **9.15 am on Wednesday mornings**. Should anyone else have any requests for prayer the members of both groups would be happy to include them. Please contact mguly@aol.com or edwardsbobbarbara@btinternet.com (Mothers Prayers) or mary-mike@the tors.eu (Martha Group)

The Martha Group held their meeting at home this month. Mary Pike coordinated this by putting our prayer and petitions on-line and we agreed to pray together at 8.30pm. Sue has lit a candle every day asking our Blessed Mother Mary to protect us all in this great time of need. Further details or to ask for prayers please contact Barbara Edwards852636 or Mary Pike (mary-mike@thetors.eu).

Emergency Response: Food Bank – Thank you for your contributions to the foodbank, which are greatly in demand, in particular the Easter eggs this week. A neighbour, not a parishioner, who is working in Tavistock is delivering for us. The day has changed from Friday to Wednesday. Thank you again. God bless.

Several jigsaws have been donated to Yelvercare and we have several at church. Mary Pike and Sue Savage are happy to coordinate a 'jigsaw library'. If you phone Sue (853572) or email Mary we can arrange to get them to you either by leaving them on the bench at church or delivering. Thank you.

Children's Liturgy: Our Children's Liturgy catechists sometimes use the sites below to help with planning a Sunday Children's Liturgy.

You might find them useful to work through with your children.

The CAFOD site also has sheets to download to keep little people busy!

<https://cafod.org.uk/Education/Children-s-liturgy>

<https://rcdow.org.uk/faith/catechesis/childrens-liturgy/>

Dear All,

What strange and challenging times we are living in at the moment. I have been thinking a lot about our Parish community particularly during this holy week as we move towards the wonderful celebration of our risen Lord. This is a time when we truly reflect on our faith and our desires to share the wonders of that faith with those around us.

It may seem like our efforts and opportunities to share our faith are limited at the moment however, we can see wonderful acts of compassion, caring, love and community going on all around us. Such examples of the fundamental basis of our faith – Christ alive in the generosity and self-sacrifice of so many. And then there is the quiet army of the faithful who, from the isolation of their homes, are praying for our world and our fellow travellers on this difficult journey.

We cannot meet to share our stories and our thoughts however we can use the wonder of the digital world to communicate. I am sure we can share the many acts of kindness we have witnessed and I for one, appreciate how uplifting this can be when things can seem bleak. I know many of us were so moved to have received or been able to collect blessed Palms this week and felt the real connection with our Parish and our spiritual home of Holy Cross.

I wonder if you would be happy to share your experiences, thoughts, encounters, readings or inspirational passages by email to me which I will pull together into one document and share with the Parish each month via the newsletter. Then perhaps each Wednesday evening at 7pm we could pause for a while and pray for and with each other.

I have attached the prayers (see below) that the Evangelisation group say together at our monthly meetings and Pope Francis' prayer to Our Mother Mary to watch over the world in this current moment of crisis.

God bless,

Francine Brooks, Holy Cross, Yelverton
francine@engagepd.com

Pope Francis' prayer to Our Mother Mary to watch over the world in this current moment of crisis

O Mary, you shine continuously on our journey as a sign of salvation and hope.

We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick.

At the foot of the Cross you participated in Jesus' pain,
with steadfast faith.

You, Salvation of the People, know what we need.

We are certain that you will provide, so that,

as you did at Cana of Galilee,

joy and feasting might return after this moment of trial.

Help us, Mother of Divine Love,

to conform ourselves to the Father's will

and to do what Jesus tells us:

He who took our sufferings upon Himself, and bore our sorrows to bring us,
through the Cross, to the joy of the Resurrection. Amen.

We seek refuge under your protection, O Holy Mother of God.

Do not despise our pleas – we who are put to the test – and deliver us from every danger, O
glorious and blessed Virgin.

Prayer for Protection

Holy Michael, the Archangel, defend us in battle. Be our safeguard against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray; and do thou, O Prince of the heavenly host, by the power of God cast into hell Satan and all the evil spirits who wander through the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.

Prayer for Intentional Discipleship

Heavenly Father, Thank you for this great opportunity to grow in love and relationship with you. I know that you are calling me to know you more deeply through your son Jesus. I open my heart to the great power of your Holy Spirit and I invoke the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary as I begin this new journey to find you from within, and to realise the gifts I received through my baptism. Help me Father, to be released from any preconceived notions that stifle the creativity of the Holy Spirit, so that I am completely in your hands and compliant to all that you wish for me. I pray also for my fellow pilgrims, that we will support, inspire and enthuse each other, fanning the spark of faith into a fire that fills us with the desire to proclaim the Good News of your Gospel. Take from me any thought of self and give me the courage and humility I need to speak out and listen respectfully. So that together we may grow in confidence, give witness to you with joy and build your Kingdom. I thank you Father in joyful anticipation, and offer this prayer through Jesus Christ your Son.

Prayer for England

O Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of God and our most gentle Queen and Mother, look down in mercy upon England, your "Dowry" and upon us all who greatly hope and trust in you. By you it was that Jesus our Saviour and our hope was given unto the world; and He has given you to us that we might hope still more. Plead for us your children, whom you did receive and accept at the foot of the Cross, O sorrowful Mother. Intercede for our separated brethren, that with us in the one true fold they may be united to the supreme Shepherd, the Vicar of your Son. Pray for us all, dear Mother, that by faith fruitful in good works we may all deserve to see and praise God, together with you, in our heavenly home. Amen.

Prayer for Evangelisation

Loving Father, You so loved the world that you sent us your only Son that we might believe in him and have eternal life. May we encounter Jesus Christ anew this day and live the Good News with joy. Through the power of your Holy Spirit, help us to "go out to the whole world and proclaim" our faith with confidence. Give us the courage to witness to the Joy of the Gospel by our words and actions. Help our parish to become more welcoming and missionary, so that you may be known and loved by all people. We make this prayer through Our Lord Jesus Christ Your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever, Amen.

Our Lady, Star of the New Evangelisation
Pray for us.

Blessed John Henry Newman,
Pray for us.

St Therese of Lisieux,
Pray for us.

Dear friends, families & churches across the UK,

FAITH INSPIRED CREATIVITY

We are passionate about the work we do in schools, churches and communities and in this current climate of uncertainty and fear it is our vision to continue to spread the good news of our Christian faith with people of all ages and backgrounds through original Holy Spirit inspired theatre.

www.risetheatre.co.uk/riseappeal

SPREAD THE GOOD NEWS!

During this period, we have decided to make available THREE hi-res versions of our short dramatic SKETCHES on a '[pay what you like](#)' basis to be used in church live online streaming or personal prayer time. Please prayerfully consider making a one-off donation to allow RISE Theatre to continue & help spread the good news to people at home.

For a taster of our THREE sketches, here are the YouTube links below (in low-res):

Jesus the Photographer <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qasHQAI Two>

Spiritualeyes <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rh3dzJC2sBg>

God Air <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e8OikeCCyho>

VACANCY

The Catholic Children's Society (Plymouth) is looking for enthusiastic, new Trustee Directors to fill vacancies that have arisen as a result of retirement.

The Society's stated purpose is to provide help to families in urgent need and to alleviate child poverty, avoid neglect or abuse and prevent homelessness. Where possible, the Society aims to educate parents and enable them to provide a better quality of family life.

We are looking for experienced members of the public to guide the charity and ensure it is managed effectively. We are seeking Trustee Directors who have strategic vision, independent judgement, the ability to think creatively and a willingness to speak their mind. We are especially interested in hearing from people with the time, enthusiasm and commitment to take an active role in the Society - mentoring our staff, attending events and our educational courses. You may also have valuable experience in managing within a small charity.

We are particularly keen to achieve a more diverse board of trustees and we welcome applications from all sections of the community.

The Board meets at least four times a year and whilst the position is voluntary and unpaid, reasonable travelling expenses are paid as per our policy.

To find out more, please contact Shelagh Fearnley or Andrea Rodgers on 01364 645420 for an informal chat and an information pack.

The Bonus Ball: on Saturday 4th April ball number 25 was drawn in the National Lottery. As this had been unallocated in our weekly Draw the full £26 goes to Church Funds as agreed when the Bonus Ball was set up in 1997. There were 26 subscribers that night.

I would very much like to keep the Bonus Ball running during the time when there are no church services. We provide a steady drip feed of funds to Holy Cross which are essential to maintain. If you would still like to be involved please send a cheque or cash to Holy Cross and you can still be included. Prize monies will still be paid out and winners included in the weekly bulletin.

Sue Walsh

Collections last Sunday: Loose plate £0* Standing Orders £751

Obviously Church collections will be seriously diminished during the period when there are no services. With no money in the plate collections funds will be seriously reduced. Yet bills will continue to arise due to ongoing maintenance, rates, utilities, etc etc.

And it is times like this when we need to dig deep to continue to be able to reach out to those in society with the greatest need. This will be our main focus over the coming weeks and months. So if you do not use a Standing order to contribute perhaps you would consider setting one up. **If people could set up a standing order until things go back to normal. it would be much better.** We don't have to touch any cheques etc. If you can please contact the Parish Office for a form.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Fr Martin

*Thanks to those who sent in money for Collections and the Bonus Ball. These will be counted later.

Fr Martin, as well as looking after us all, has kept the fabric of Holy Cross up to date. The central heating was sorted before the lockdown, and the trees around the Presbytery are to be cut down to prevent possible storm damage in the future as they have become very tall. Recent damage to the hall roof, in the high winds, a few weeks ago, has also been repaired and the Disabled bays in the car park have been repainted.

Parish Secretary

I will be working from home until further notice with no access to the office, printing or copying etc. I am happy for any parishioner to contact me whatever day as I will be here at home! Always happy to help! Take care and God Bless, Ann Ruth

Ann can pick up messages left on the Office phone remotely. If you need to speak with her directly you can ring: 07792 585632

Parish newsletter

We will continue to provide a weekly bulletin online, with copies outside the church (on the bench under the veranda) for those who need them, to keep you in touch with the Parish. If there is anything you would like included, please let Sue Walsh know. (Tel: 07767480807) or email: svwalsh@hotmail.com **(All items for the newsletter by noon on a Wednesday please).**

The following message has been received from: Simon Giarchi, CAFOD Coordinator, For the Diocese of Plymouth:

“Caritas Jerusalem contacted CAFOD this morning to say that

‘At this time of sorrow, incomprehension and tragedy, Caritas Jerusalem stands with the people of the UK, and in this crisis we pray for God’s mercy and healing for the sick and for health and strength for all who care for them’.

As we in CAFOD adjust, we have looked first and foremost to how we can sustain and serve the sense of connection that binds us as a Catholic community across England and Wales and between communities here and around the world. And for so many, it is a tremendous loss to no longer be able to attend Mass and to gather as church communities.

- We are hosting a live online [children’s liturgy](#) for families, on **Sundays at 10am**. Please do let families in your parish know about it - it has proved very popular with families over the last two Sundays.
- Our bidding prayer for this Sunday, Palm Sunday, is
We pray for the Church and for the world: that God may grant us the gifts of courage, compassion and wisdom as we face challenging circumstances together. Lord, in your mercy...
- More prayers, for liturgical use or private prayer, are available at cafod.org.uk/Pray

Lent Fast Day donations are currently coming in from parishes and schools for our Lent Fast Day Appeal. Thank you. We are immensely grateful for your support. As we look to respond globally to the impact of this virus in the year ahead, it makes a huge difference to have that support and funding in place.

Unfortunately, we are now unable to thank those who’ve sent us donations by post in the way we would usually like, because of restrictions. Cheques will be banked but a thank you letter will not be sent. For this reason the best and easiest way to donate to us is [online](#) or by bank transfer. **Please**, with Fast Day and any other donations, **give as much detail as possible with your BACS payment**, so that we can identify the parish and what the gift relates to. The parish 'Lent Fast Day' code to do this is R122722 and then please add the number in your Lent Fast Day mailing pack beginning with 500 - for example Corpus Christi in Tonbridge is 5000400.

For this, our bank details are:

Account Name	CAFOD
Account Number	11769410
Branch Code	16-00-30
BIC/Swift code	RBoSGB2L
Bank	The Royal Bank of Scotland, London Cavendish Square branch

The Pope’s Universal Prayer for April: Freedom from Addiction

We pray that those suffering from addiction may be helped and accompanied.

Holy Cross is part of Plymouth Diocesan Trust (Registered Charity No 213227)