



## HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC CHURCH

Dousland Road, Yelverton, PL20 6AZ

Priest In Charge: *Fr Martin Stone*

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Website: www.holycrossyelverton.org.uk



### Week Commencing Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2020 (Year A)

#### Fourth Sunday of Lent – Laetare Sunday

(Readings: 1 Samuel 16:1 6-7, 10-13 • Psalm 22 • Ephesians 5:8-14 • John 9:1-41)

Dear Parishioners,

I think that we are all still living in shock at the occurrences and developments of these last few weeks. We have heard much about the development of the Coronavirus. While, in response, some are panic buying others are denying it or calling it a hoax. Personally, my preference is to focus our attention on continuing to offer support to those in need and offering a caring hand to those who reach out to us. We will of course still pray for those in need and celebrate Mass, albeit without a congregation. We will be stepping up a few gears in reaching out not only to the sick, the housebound and those who are self-isolating, but also to those who are struggling in different way. Please continue to do the same yourselves, personally, and please continue to support the Parish so that we can continue to reach out with love, compassion and understanding.

May the Lord watch over us all and give us the strength to continue to bring his light to the world,

Fr Martin

#### Mass Intentions this Week

<b>Saturday*</b>	<b>21<sup>st</sup> March</b>	<b>4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent</b>	- Paddy Whelan RIP
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>22<sup>nd</sup> March</b>	<b>4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent</b>	- People of the Parish
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>24<sup>th</sup> March</b>	<b>Lent Feria</b>	- Mike Knight RIP
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>25<sup>th</sup> March</b>	<b>The Annunciation</b>	- All those affected by the Coronavirus (Intention)
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>26<sup>th</sup> March</b>	<b>Lent Feria</b>	- Private Intention
<b>Friday</b>	<b>27<sup>th</sup> March</b>	<b>Lent Feria</b>	- Mary Lawlor & Deceased Members of the Lawlor Family RIP
<b>Saturday*</b>	<b>28<sup>th</sup> March</b>	<b>5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent</b>	- People of the Parish
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>29<sup>th</sup> March</b>	<b>5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent</b>	- Fr Kieran Kirby (Intention)

*\*Vigil Mass*

#### We remember in Prayer

We pray for those whose Anniversaries occur at this time: Marjorie A Parkes.

Please pray for Mike Knight who died recently and for his family, wife Bernie, children Linda, Peter and Sue and their families. They are one of our 'oldest' Parish families. Mike and Bernie were looking forward to celebrating their 50th Wedding Anniversary next month.

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

Daily Mass will be streamlined at 11am from Plymouth Cathedral available on the Diocesan & Cathedral websites. This is the one place where we can join together each day as a Diocesan family individually make 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 updates and letters from Cardinal Vincent Nichols and Bishop Mark O'Toole are available on the Holy Cross Parish website under a new section entitled **Coronavirus** and copies will be available in church for those who cannot view them online. These letters contain explanations and advice. There are also prayers including a Spiritual Communion.

We have been asked by the Bishop to get as many people as possible to subscribe to the Diocesan You Tube channel by clicking on the following link: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC8KUEwsXFK3VBLEfn4H1tBw>

If we get enough subscribers, the diocese will be able to live stream the liturgy. This will be a great comfort to many.

## Parish Notices

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

**Mass intentions:** Mass intentions slips, envelopes and cards are available at the back of the Church.

**Stations of the Cross booklets** are available at the back of the church for any parishioners who wish to pray the Stations during the daytime when the church is open.

### Emergency Response

If you have food that you can spare, or other household provisions, then please leave it in the church. If you are in need then please contact us.

### Parish Newsletter

We will continue to provide a weekly bulletin online, with copies in church for those who need them, to keep you in touch with the Parish. If there is anything you would like included, please let Father or Sue Walsh know.

### Children's Resources

Resources to use with children during school closures: Please find some suggestions of Christian focused sites to look at for resources and ideas that families can use whilst in home isolation. There is a Diocese of Plymouth Youth Events Facebook page which was originally designed to share Youth Events but in the current climate we can use it to share ideas of activities families are doing or have done. All links & details will be on the Holy Cross website.

### Corona Virus

SPUC Screening of the film, 'Unplanned' is postponed and will no longer be shown on the 24th March at the Athenaeum. A new date for screening at the Athenaeum Lecture Theatre will be confirmed once the current health crisis is over and notified via church bulletin notice and this link: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/film-unplanned-tickets-97572264269> For further info contact: Christine Hudson 07742320717

## **VACANCY**

RE and Catholic Life Adviser Location: St. Boniface House, Ashburton, Devon TQ13 7JL. Salary: £45,000 per annum for full time hours, pro-rata for reduced hours, plus car allowance, mobile phone allowance and pension scheme (subject to eligibility). Hours: Will consider, depending on experience, 3, 4 or 5 days per week. See notice board for full details. Closing date: 30<sup>th</sup> March. Interviews 6<sup>th</sup> April.

**Catholic South West!** The March edition is available – 50p per copy.

**CTS booklets & Repository** – these continue to be at the back of church in the rack and are individually priced. We have a selection of cards & books in the carousel.

## **Bonus Ball**

Bonus Ball on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> March ball number 14 was drawn in the National Lottery. As this had been unallocated in our weekly Draw the full £30 goes to Church Funds as agreed when the Bonus Ball was set up in 1997. There were 30 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 our ministry here. If you would still like to be involved please send a cheque or cash to Holy Cross and you can still be included. There are some numbers available. Prize monies will still be paid out and winners included in the weekly bulletin.

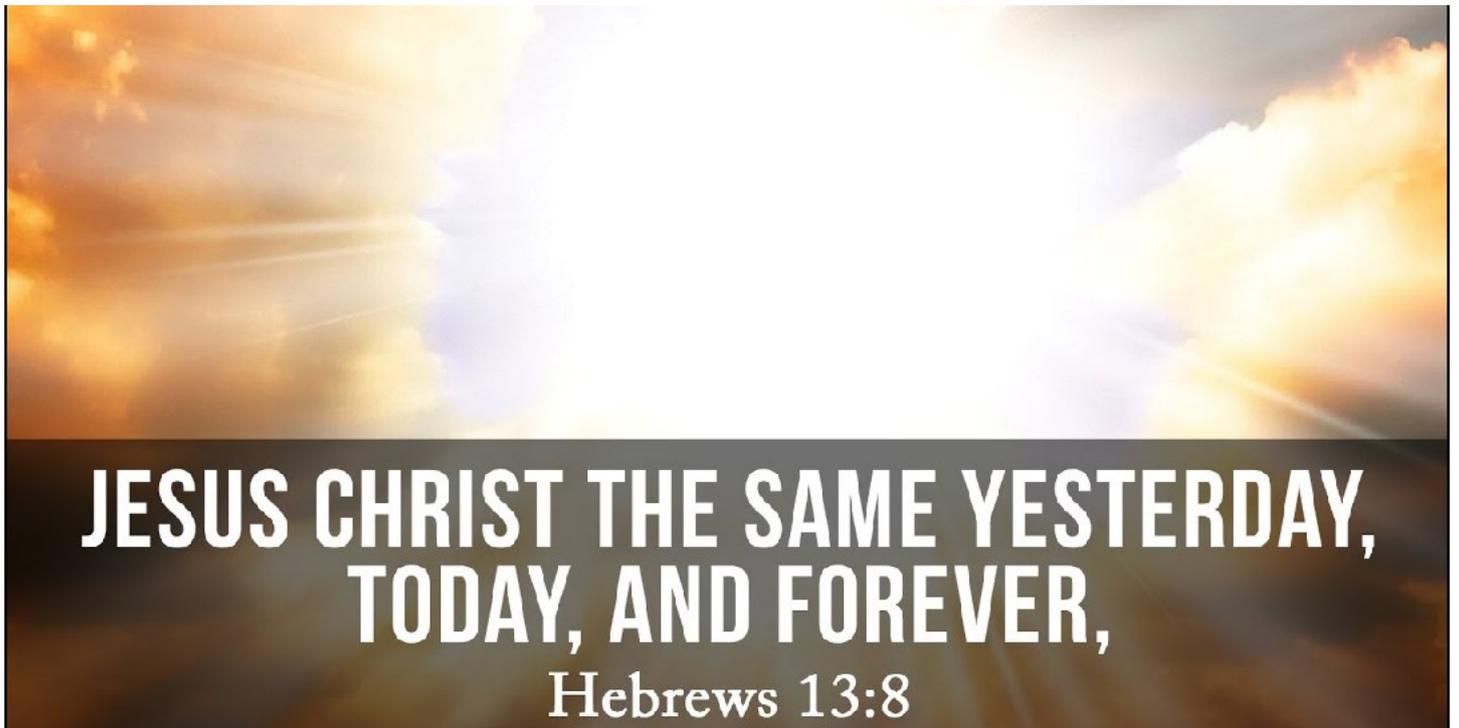
*Sue Walsh*

## **Parish Secretary**

Ann, our Parish Secretary, will be working from home Tuesdays & Fridays 9am-2pm. Ann can pick up messages left on the Office phone remotely. If you need to speak with her directly you can ring: 07792 585632. Thank you.

## **Newsletter Contact:**

Sue Walsh (Tel: 07767480807) or email: [svwalsh@hotmail.com](mailto:svwalsh@hotmail.com) (All items for the newsletter by noon on a Wednesday please).



**Collections last Sunday:**

Loose plate £148.73 Gift aided £61.00 Standing orders £207.00.

**Ongoing Collections**

Obviously church collections will be seriously diminished during the period when there are no services. The figures above show the difference in plate collections and Standing Orders. 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 might consider setting one up. If so please leave give your details to the Parish Office.

While we are in this time of uncertainty this would be our preferred way as, once set up, you do not need to make that extra journey and we do not need to count those monies or bank them. However, if you still prefer to pay by cash or cheque these can be directed to the Parish Office.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

*Fr Martin*

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

**The church will remain open each day for private prayer.**

**The Sacrament of Reconciliation is available on request, unless the person is self-isolating.**

**Message from Fr Martin**

I cannot stress this enough but if you are in any need, whatsoever, then please do call us. (There are a number of contacts available with numbers contained on this newsletter.) While we will be naturally busy over the coming days, weeks, and possibly months, that is no reason for you, or anyone, to feel that you cannot call one of your fellow parishioners or myself to speak with or have a chat.

It is at times like this that we should be unafraid of living our Christian values of love and compassion and, in doing so, strengthen the bonds that already are part of our lives and our community here. As Peter Scholtes popular hymn "We are One in the Spirit" affirmed, "they'll know we are Christians by our love." Let us continue to live our lives as Christians!

*Fr Martin*

**My contact details:**

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- ✓ fr.martinstone@yahoo.co.uk
- ✓ Martin.stone@prcdtr.org.uk

**The Pope's Intention for Evangelisation for March: Catholics in China**

We pray that the Church in China may persevere  
in its faithfulness to the Gospel and grow in unity.