



## HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC CHURCH

Dousland Road, Yelverton, PL20 6AZ

Priest In Charge: *Fr Martin Stone*

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**Week Commencing Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2020 (Year A)**

**Fourth Sunday of Easter  
World Day of Prayer for Vocations**

(Readings: Ac 2:14.36-41 Ps 22 1P 2:20-25 Jn 10:1-10)

**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.**

### Mass Intentions this Week

|           |                      |                              |   |
|-----------|----------------------|------------------------------|---|
| Saturday  | 2 <sup>nd</sup> May  |                              | - People of the Parish                                |
| Sunday    | 3 <sup>rd</sup> May  | Fourth Sunday of Easter      | - Louise Olson RIP                                    |
| Tuesday   | 5 <sup>th</sup> May  |                              | - Michael Prout, Intention                            |
| Wednesday | 6 <sup>th</sup> May  | <i>St Catherine of Siena</i> | - Joan Dauncey, Intention                             |
| Thursday  | 7 <sup>th</sup> May  |                              | - Those affected by the Corona Virus                  |
| Friday    | 8 <sup>th</sup> May  |                              | - Fred Brooks RIP                                     |
| Saturday  | 9 <sup>th</sup> May  |                              | - Mary Lawlor & Deceased members of the Lawlor Family |
| Sunday    | 10 <sup>th</sup> May | Fifth Sunday of Easter       | - People of the Parish                                |

### We remember in Prayer:

**Anniversaries:** Bernard T Evans, May R C Payne, Thomas Sheedy, Benjamin G Tole, George Langan,

**Please pray for the sick and/or housebound** including, Margaret Phelps, Jill White, Nora Steel, Margaret Bradford, Margaret Davies and Michael Prout (who is awaiting surgery).

**Daily Mass is being streamed 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.

**The latest addition is Bishop Mark's message to the Diocese on April 28<sup>th</sup> 'Let us be like Christ the Servant'.**

## 2020 World Day of Prayer for Vocations

The World Day of Prayer for Vocations - also known as Vocations Sunday - this year will be celebrated on 3rd May 2020. This day flows from the broader culture of vocation and is when the universal Church asks the Lord to send more labourers to the harvest.

The Holy Father, Pope Francis, writes:

*Dear friends, on this day in particular, but also in the ordinary pastoral life of our communities, I ask the Church to continue to promote vocations. May she touch the hearts of the faithful and enable each of them to discover with gratitude God's call in their lives, to find courage to say "yes" to God, to overcome all weariness through faith in Christ, and to make of their lives a song of praise for God, for their brothers and sisters, and for the whole world. May the Virgin Mary accompany us and intercede for us.*

Through your prayers and encouragement our seminarians, Albert and Andrew, continue to thrive on their vocational pathway towards ordination as Diocesan priests. If you have been watching the daily Masses streamed on location at our Cathedral, you might be aware that Albert is currently assisting Bishop Mark there, and similarly Andrew has been assisting Fr Chris Findlay-Wilson with the on-line liturgy at Parkstone, Poole. Because of the pandemic, both men have had to move away from their usual community life at seminary and are studying remotely via on-line resources to continue their formation. Their willingness to 'up-sticks' is testimony to their fortitude and generosity of spirit under what are difficult circumstances for us all. We look forward to Albert's ordination to the Diaconate in July of this year, and to Andrew's next year.

This year we have one of our enquirers going forward to our annual selection conference to be held later this month. Do please keep Charles in your prayers as he continues to discern his way forward, seeking to carry out the Lord's will by offering his life in service of the Lord and His Church.

Finally, I invite all those curious about the priesthood or religious life to contact me, Fr Ralph Candy, on 01803 557518, or send me an email to [vocation@procdtr.org.uk](mailto:vocation@procdtr.org.uk). In the meantime, I'll leave you with a prayer for Vocations Sunday 2020, which we can all make our own:

***Loving Father,  
you call us by name.  
As we journey through life  
help us to be confident in our own unique identity  
and to find opportunities  
to develop our own gifts and passions.  
We pray that the Holy Spirit  
will pour on us wisdom and guidance  
to help us realise and follow our dreams,  
discerning your plan for our lives.  
Bless your Church  
by raising up dedicated and generous people  
from our families and friends  
who will serve as Priests, Deacons,  
Sisters and Brothers.  
May we support one another in response to God's call.  
We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen***

Fr Ralph Candy  
Vocations Director

### 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** initiated the 33 days to Morning Glory do-it - yourself retreat on Tuesday 28th April, which by coincidence is the feast day of St Louis de Montfort. We have been given 2 websites , one is a young Marian Missionary Fr in America who gives a short reflection for the day, (4 mins) and the second is an Irish Dominican Fr Adrian who reads through the daily reading ( 7/8 mins). It is very spiritually uplifting and a good part of the day in these surreal times.If anyone wishes to join in we have a photocopy of the booklet which we can post/ drop off and can email the websites to you. There are 13/14 taking part. Contacts: Sue 853572 or Barbara ( [edwardsbobbarbara@btinternet.com](mailto:edwardsbobbarbara@btinternet.com)). Thank you.

Here is a link for the first day of the 33 days of the Morning Glory Retreat. If you just either click on the link, or put it into google and click, it should come up with the priest reading from day 1. About 8 minutes. [https://youtu.be/46h\\_ijZURP8](https://youtu.be/46h_ijZURP8) Good luck with a wonderful enterprise, may Our Lady bless you all.

This second link consists of a short commentary on the daily reading, which has been found to be helpful. [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=INoktZA6h\\_U](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=INoktZA6h_U) Marian Missionaries of Divine Mercy, think in Stockville. America.

Hello everyone,

I hope you are all keeping safe and well in these challenging times. There are many inspiring verses that can strengthen us in times such as these which, I am sure you are familiar with. I thought it would be good to share a few that I have reflected upon, as a reminder that we are never alone.

*"Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."* Philippians 4:6-7

*"So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."* Isaiah 41:10

And of course, the beautiful prayer of Divine Mercy – *"Jesus, I trust in you"*

Over the past five weeks, we have witnessed so many acts of kindness, compassion and bravery by those caring for our communities, on the television, radio and first-hand in our villages and homes. I am humbled by the generosity of their spirit and their fortitude to see this through despite the impact on their lives and risks to their own health. Many of our own parishioners, friends and family members are on this front line of care, many are key workers keeping our society together, many are watching over those in need and responding willingly to calls for help and support. We are truly grateful to all of them, not only when we applaud from our doorsteps on Thursday evenings, but also when we remember them every day in our prayers.

Like several families in our parish and those around us, we have recently received so much support and an outpouring of love and much appreciated prayers following the death of a loved one, in our case, my father-in-law Frederick Brooks. He was a 91-year-old Chelsea Pensioner and he unfortunately caught the virus, losing his final battle on 11<sup>th</sup> April. He lived a long, interesting and happy life. He was a wonderful man. Sadly, we could not be with him in his final days which was particularly hard but the prayers and support we have received have been a great comfort. Prayer is the gift that we can continue to give each other in our hours of need, our times of sadness and our moments of joy, for there is still so much to celebrate in this wonderful world.

Please continue to share your experiences, thoughts and reflections.

Stay safe, strong and well. God bless,  
Francine Brooks

**Emergency Response: Food Bank** – Thank you for your contributions to the foodbank, which are greatly in demand. 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/>

**Collections last Sunday:** Loose plate £0\* Standing Orders £210.00

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.

**The Bonus Ball** - Ball number 36 was drawn in the National Lottery. As this had been unallocated in our weekly Draw the full £25 goes to Church Funds as agreed when the Bonus Ball was set up in 1997. There were 25 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**

### **Other Notices:-**

#### **MISSION MADE POSSIBLE**

Is the thought of sharing your faith with family friends and others just too scary? Are you thinking; 'that's not for me, I could never do that' or perhaps you just don't know where to start? Well you are not alone

JOIN CATHOLICS IN OUR DIOCESE AND ACROSS THE GLOBE WHO FEEL EXACTLY THE SAME WAY.

With the encouragement of Bishop Mark, you are invited to take part at home, and learn how to have these conversations appropriately and without feeling awkward.

If you would like to learn more please send an email with your telephone number to [jonathan.bielawski@prcdtr.org.uk](mailto:jonathan.bielawski@prcdtr.org.uk) and follow this link to watch the overview video titled 'How to Evangelise'  
<https://wp.me/paTncV-8rl>

Thank you. God bless.  
Fr. Jon Bielawski

**N.B. There is a copy of the latest Caritas newsletter on the Coronavirus page of our Parish website.**

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](http://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=rh3dzJC2sBq>

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

### **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](mailto:svwalsh@hotmail.com) **(All items for the newsletter by noon on a Wednesday please).**

### **The Pope's Universal Prayer for May: For Deacons**

We pray that deacons, faithful in their service to the Word and the poor, may be an invigorating symbol for the entire Church.

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