



## HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC CHURCH

Dousland Road, Yelverton, PL20 6AZ

Priest In Charge: *Fr Martin Stone*

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**Week Commencing Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> April 2020 (Year A)**

**Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord**

**(Readings: Is 50:4-7, Ps 21 Ph 2:6-11 Mt 26:14-27:66 )**

**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.**

Dear Parishioners

We should 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

Saturday*	4 <sup>th</sup> April	Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord	- People of the Parish
Sunday	5 <sup>th</sup> April	Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord	-
Tuesday	7 <sup>th</sup> April	Tuesday of Holy Week	- Veronica Crowther, RIP
Wednesday	8 <sup>th</sup> April	Wednesday of Holy Week	- Private Intention
Thursday	9 <sup>th</sup> April	Maundy Thursday	- Private Intention

### The Sacred Paschal Triduum

Friday	10 <sup>th</sup> April	Good Friday	-
Saturday*	11 <sup>th</sup> April	Holy Saturday	-
Sunday	12 <sup>th</sup> April	Easter Sunday	- People of the Parish

### **We remember in Prayer**

**Anniversaries:** Alfred B O'Hare, Marie A Attfield; Frances Lynch, Anne Moore and Patrick Cotchings.

Please pray for Ann Dawes' sister-in-law, **Phyllis Denton**, recently deceased, and for her family.

Please pray for **Veronica Crowther, RIP**, sister of Jim Walsh who died recently in South Africa. Please pray for her family.

**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 updates and letters from Cardinal Vincent Nichols and Bishop Mark O'Toole are available on our Holy Cross website under a new section entitled **Coronavirus** These letters contain explanations and advice. There are also prayers including a Spiritual Communion.

### **Parish Notices: -**

**Please note Father Martin is away at present. Please do not try to contact him**

**If you need to call a priest for a 'dying' relative or friend, please call:**

**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.

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

In our current isolation when we are unable to meet in person for our **monthly** meeting, the members of the **Martha Group** are proposing to hold the prayer part of the meeting **by email next Tuesday, 7th April at 10.30 am**. Please send any prayer request to Mary Pike mary-mike@the tors.eu who will then send back the prayer, together with a list of our petitions.

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)

**Emergency Response: Food Bank** – We are still continuing to collect for the Tavistock Food Bank and have arrangements in place to take the donations to the centre on a Wednesday. The box is located on the bench under the veranda entrance to the Hall. Thank you so much for your continued support, it is very much appreciated especially in these extreme circumstances.

### **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. Palm crosses will also be available there for anyone who wants to collect one.

**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/>

## 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 Winner** on Saturday 28th March was Mary Pike with ball number 11. She won £25. There were 26 paid up subscribers that night so £1 went to Parish funds.

**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 £60

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 so please contact the Parish Office for a form.

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**

**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.

So we are offering: [Mass streamed live with CAFOD](#) and friends, celebrated by Fr Liam Hayes, this **Wednesday evening 1st April at 6pm**. Please feel free to share this link with your parishioners. You can book or join at any time. We shall bring together our prayers, from and for our communities and partners, our families and friends, both across the world and throughout the UK.

· 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](http://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

We are so grateful for your parish's support, and for your help in getting it to us in these unfamiliar ways.

This virus is truly a global pandemic. We are extremely concerned about how it will affect countries with weak health infrastructure, limited water access and communities in refugee camps. We are doing everything we can, now, to support existing communities to reduce the impact of the virus and we will be developing an urgent response programme, linking with key Caritas partners and Caritas Internationalis in Rome, and with UK agencies. We will of course keep you informed; and there are regular updates on our website. Please pray for our partners, and for Church networks throughout the world, as they prepare to respond. Thank you for keeping in your thoughts and prayers those least equipped to deal with the spread of this virus; those with poor health and poor healthcare, and those without water or in cramped living conditions, who cannot isolate or do not have access to soap, water and sanitation.”

**Parish Secretary**

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

Sue Walsh (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 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)*