

FIRST READING

Acts 10:34,37-43

Peter addressed Cornelius and his household: "You must have heard about the recent happenings in Judaea; about Jesus of Nazareth and how he began in Galilee, after John had been preaching baptism. God had anointed him with the Holy Spirit and with power, and because God was with him, Jesus went about doing good and curing all who had fallen into the power of the devil. Now I, and those with me, can witness to everything he did throughout the countryside of Judaea and in Jerusalem itself: and also to the fact that they killed him by hanging him on a tree, yet three days afterwards God raised him to life and allowed him to be seen, not by the whole people but only by certain witnesses God had chosen beforehand. Now we are those witnesses - and he has ordered us to proclaim this to his people and to tell them that God has appointed him to judge everyone, alive or dead. It is to him that all the prophets bear this witness: that all who believe in Jesus will have their sins forgiven through his name."

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalms 117

This day was made by the Lord; we rejoice and are glad.

1. Alleluia. Give thanks to the Lord for he is good for his love has no end
Let the sons of Israel say:
"His love has no end".
2. The Lord's right hand has triumphed.
his right hand raised me up.
I shall not die, I shall live
and recount his deeds.
3. The stone which the builders rejected
Has become the corner stone.
This is the work of the Lord,
A marvel in our eyes.

SECOND READING

Colossians 3:1-4

Since you have been brought back to true life with Christ, you must look for the things that are in heaven, where Christ is, sitting at God's right hand. Let your thoughts be on heavenly things, not on the things that are on the earth, because you have died, and now the life you have is hidden with Christ in God but when Christ is revealed - and he is your life - you too will be revealed in all your glory with him.

SEQUENCE and GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Christians, to the Paschal Victim offer sacrifice and praise. The sheep are ransomed by the Lamb; and Christ, the undefiled, hath sinners to his Father reconciled.

Death with life contended: combat strangely ended! Life's own champion slain, yet lives to reign. Tell us Mary, say what thou didst see upon the way.

The tomb the living did enclose; I saw Christ's glory as he rose!

The angels there attesting; shroud with grace-cloths resting.

Christ my hope, has risen: he goes before you into Galilee.

That Christ is truly risen from the dead we know. Victorious king, thy mercy show!

Alleluia. Alleluia! Christ our passover has been sacrificed;

let us celebrate the feast then, in the Lord. Alleluia!

GOSPEL

John 20:1-9

It was very early on the first day of the week and still dark, when Mary of Magdala came to the tomb. She saw that the stone had been moved away from the tomb and came running to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one Jesus loved. "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb", she said, "and we don't know where they have put him"

So Peter set out with the other disciple to go to the tomb. They ran together, but the other disciple, running faster than Peter, reached the tomb first; he bent down and saw the linen cloths lying on the ground, but did not go in. Simon Peter who was following now came up, went right into the tomb, saw the linen cloths on the ground, and also the cloth that had been over his head; this was not with the linen cloths but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple who had reached the tomb first also went in; he saw and he believed. Till this moment they had failed to understand the teaching of scripture, that he must rise from the dead.

St Anthony of Padua

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Website: www.stanthonys-rc-church-preston.org.uk/

Priest: Fr. Peter Draper (Tel: 725193)

Deacons: Rev. John Kilshaw (07759 943667)

Rev. Tom Butler (retired - 07853777957);

Sunday Masses: 6.00 (Vigil - Saturday Evening) 9.30am (Sunday Morning)

Weekday Mass: Tue, Wed, Fri: 9.15am. (Mon & Thurs 9.15am at Holy Family)

Confessions: Saturday: 5.30 - 5.50pm

Annexe: 725544

Social Centre: 735963

Primary school: 726621

Playgroup/Preschool 07963 700591

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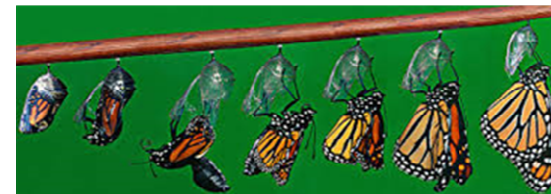
Celebrating Easter in the midst of Covid19

I suspect many of us are tired of too many words at the moment: daily news updates on the virus - its symptoms and its heartbreaking consequences for those far and too near; perhaps we are even tired of words that try to offer comfort and make sense of it all; and, dare I say, we may even experience a measure of emptiness in participating in live-streaming of services. During the weeks of Lent and especially during Holy Week, we have almost frantically looked for other ways to continue doing what we normally do and no doubt this will be our focus in our Easter celebrations. For some of us, our hearts may be closed to the traditional reflections on Easter and may even feel that there will be no Easter on April 12th, 2020.

Our reality is that we live in both chronos time (the measured time in which we live our daily lives) and kairos time (deep time/live-in-the-moment time/qualitative time). This year, we are being invited to live in kairos time, when Easter is an ongoing reality: life is always changing, but life never ends. We are also being invited to experience our global connectedness with each person and each creature. We are being invited to be one with all who suffer the pain of lockdown. This is a new experience for us. Perhaps it will expand our beings and open our hearts and arms to embrace those who have long been experiencing different kinds of lockdowns and separation from loved ones due to war, injustice, exile from their home countries, those experiencing a living bereavement of loved ones suffering from dementia or other illnesses. And how do we do this? We've been told many times in the past few weeks: Stay at home. Jesus gave his disciples a similar instruction: "Make your home in me, as I make mine in you." If these are the only words we sit with for some time every day, we will live the Resurrection in the present moment, and allow the Resurrection to change us now.

Pictures paint a thousand words, as does the picture of the metamorphosis of the caterpillar to a butterfly - Nature's Easter Story.

**Life is changed,
not ended**



EASTER Year A 12th April 2020

DIARY AND MASS INTENTIONS

for the week beginning Saturday 11th April 2020

Sun	For our parish	<i>EASTER!</i>
Mon	Josef Janima Drewek	
Tue	Anthony Keane	
Wed	Alan Southworth	
Thur	Peter Cairns	
Fri	Bernard Ward	
Sat	Family of Donal O'Toole	
Sun	For our parish	<i>2nd Sunday of Easter</i>

Masses received this week:

In thanksgiving (op), Bernard Ward, Peter Cairns, Alan Southworth.

Wishing all the children of our parish a happy and safe Easter. We are thinking of you all in our prayers and hope we will all be back together soon at St Anthony of Padua.

From Maureen and all the children's liturgy leaders.

Although there is no **children's liturgy** at the moment, we do have the sheets the children normally take from the back of church on Sundays. We can send them by e-mail - just ask for a copy.

CANDLE POSTER: Churches Together in England has prepared a candle poster for those who would like to place a permanent symbol in their front windows of Christ's light shining in the darkness. Visit www.cte.org.uk/prayersofhope (this is safer than placing a real candle in the window!)

Please pray for: Joan Anderton, Bill Embery, Lawrence Dunnagan, John Myerscough and Alice Myerscough, Mary Kathleen Kellett, Chris Goldsmith, Frank & Norah Stanton, Teresa Clarkson, Theresa Crook, Betty Murphy, Marie Gardner, Karen Hardman, Carole Adnitt, Frances & Les Farrer.

Also the isolated and lonely, all medical staff and carers and those in research, the Government and all world leaders, all who are assisting the public in any way.

... for those who have died recently: Eric Hyland, Anthony Eccles, Graham Tyres, Ann Consiglio;

... and for those whose anniversaries are around now: Bill & Lily Higginson, Janet Walker, William Heaps, Barbara Wignall, William Derry, Frank Clarkson, Elizabeth Noble, Philip Atherton, Teresa Holden, John Wynne, Martha Milner, Helen Duffy, Robert Sumner, Peter Cairns, Martin Pulman, Mel Evans, Alan Southworth, Mildred Hughes, Alan Pilkington.

Church is closed - but our parish lives!

Easter is the major Feast in the Church's calendar and the climax of Our Lord's saving work on earth. It's very sad that we can't celebrate this great day together in our church, decked out wonderfully as always by Ian. No Easter Vigil either with all the drama of the fire, the lighting of the Paschal Candle, the blessing of the font and the renewal of our baptism promises.

But, hopefully, we will still be able to celebrate with great joy in our hearts what the Lord has done for us. It's also a time for solidarity in prayer with our fellow Catholics throughout the world, for whom being deprived of the Mass is a regular occurrence, through persecution or lack of priests. We are one huge family. Let's pray for each other, and the whole world, for a swift end to the corona virus pandemic.

THANKS to those who have phoned in recent weeks just to keep contact and to check that I am alright. I hope you are all keeping safe and keeping sane too. Thanks especially to little William and Francis who left on the doorstep an Easter card they had made together with two Easter nests. They've been keeping themselves busy away from school!

In case you'd missed these notices:

- Fr. Peter continues to offer **Mass** on behalf of the parish every morning but this has to be in private. If you wish Mass to be offered for any intention simply ask, either by phone or by e-mail.

- There are **Newsletters** every weekend as usual. Copies will be on St. Anthony's school website (and Holy Family website). If you would like one by e-mail send your e-mail address to parish.priest2@btinternet.com

- we have a group of **volunteers** - More and more requests this week from isolated people just wanting a chat or a bit of reassurance. Ring 724576 for help.

- **Covenant Books at Holy Family** - obviously the shop is closed but they are trying to maintain a mail order service. email: covenantbookspreston@gmail.com facebook: search for 'Covenant Books Preston' Ebay: Covenant Books

- **Funerals** may now only take place at the crematorium or the graveside. Attendance is limited to immediate family on government advice and social distancing must be kept. Later it will be possible to celebrate Mass in church for those who have died.

- **Offertory Collection.** Please hold on to these unless you are suffering financially. If you want to make a standing order to the parish ask Fr. Peter for the bank details. :Thank you

- You can follow **Mass streamed** via the internet

9.45am St. Kentigern's Blackpool Facebook Group: Parish of Christ the King & St. Kentigern
10.00am Holy Family Freckleton: Facebook Group: St Anne Westby & Holy Family Catholic
10.00am, St. Joseph's Lancaster: Facebook Group: St Joseph's Church
10.00am St. Clare's Preston YouTube Channel: St Clares Church
10.30am St. Mary's Cleator Facebook Group: St Mary & St Joseph's Catholic parish
11.00am St. Mary's Barrow. <https://ourladyoffurness.org.uk/2020/03/29>.

Some Resources for Children

- The Archdiocese of Liverpool have a page on their website for families through Holy Week and Easter Sunday See <https://www.liverpoolcatholicresources.com/>

*The God Who Speaks now have a section on the Word at home <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/home/events/the-god-who-speaks/word-at-home/>

From America: <https://holyweek.pastoral.center>

*Saddleback Kids has an animation of the Easter story on YouTube