



# ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH OF THE HOLY FAMILY

Diocese of Plymouth, Reg. Charity no 213227 (cheques made payable to PRCDTR Penwith R.C Parish)

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(and see [www.explorechurches.org/church/immaculate-conception-our-lady-penzance](http://www.explorechurches.org/church/immaculate-conception-our-lady-penzance))

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## THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF OUR LADY

Rosevean Road, Penzance, Cornwall TR18 2DX

Safeguarding Representative: Anyone wishing to contact

Safeguarding Rep. please go via the Parish Office 01736362619

## OUR LADY, STAR OF THE SEA

Lower Strand, St Mary's, Isles of Scilly. TR21 OPS

Safeguarding Representative:

**ST MARY'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL:** 01736 330005

[www.st-marys-rc-pz.cornwall.sch.uk](http://www.st-marys-rc-pz.cornwall.sch.uk) Mrs Demelza Bolton

## THE SACRED HEART AND ST. IA

Tregenna Hill, St. Ives, TR26 1SE.

Safeguarding Representatives: Anyone wishing to contact

Safeguarding Rep. Please go via the Parish Office 01736362619

## ST. JOSEPH THE WORKER

Commercial Road, Hayle, TR27 4DE.

Safeguarding Representatives: Anyone wishing to contact

Safeguarding Rep. please go via the Parish Office 01736362619

Large Print Newsletter & Hymns: Chairs with arms:

are all available on request if you need them

## THE GREAT HOLY WEEK – (A Psalter 2)

### ALL CHURCHES ARE NOW CLOSED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

In PENZANCE I offer a Private Mass each morning at 8.30 a.m. Sundays at 11 a.m. and the Triduum as below.

#### Mass intentions this week

**Sun 5<sup>th</sup> Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord 11 a.m**

*Thomas O'Neil Kelly & Michael O'Neil Kelly RIP*

**Mon 6<sup>th</sup>** *Bishop Peter Smith RIP*

**Tue 7<sup>th</sup>** *Jessie O'Brien RIP*

**Wed 8<sup>th</sup>** *Galatis Livaniou RIP*

#### THE SACRED TRIDUUM

##### Thu 9<sup>th</sup> MAUNDY THURSDAY

**Mass of the Lord's Supper 7.30 p.m.** *Eric Reeves RIP*

*(The Watch from St Chad's Cathedral, Birmingham)*

##### Fri 10<sup>th</sup> GOOD FRIDAY (Day of Fasting and abstinence)

Office of Readings and Morning Prayer 10.00 a.m.

##### CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S PASSION 3.00 P.M.

##### Sat 11<sup>th</sup> HOLY SATURDAY

**THE GREAT EASTER VIGIL 9.00 P.M.** *All to be received*

**Sun 12<sup>th</sup> EASTER SUNDAY 11.00 A.M.** *Parish & People*

It is a great privilege for a priest to be able to offer the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass daily, and you can all seek the fruits of the Sacrifice of the Mass through a spiritual communion, using the prayer below This reminds us that Jesus does not abandon His people, but draws near, indeed comes into the heart of each one, if we turn to him.

***My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love you above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if you were already there, and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.***

Please continue to look at our website, full of up-to-date information, and where you can stream Mass from various venues. When you are watching, or joining me at home each morning at 8.30 a.m. do use the prayer above at the time of communion.'

**Dear People**, how much we all miss each other and the weekly/daily gathering for the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass.

I try and keep in touch, a lot of phone calls and many emails. Do keep in touch with each other if you have contact details, as we are bound together in the common faith.

I have been amazed these past two weeks by the glorious sunshine, and in the mornings at Mass and saying the Offices of Readings and Morning Prayer, and even in the west during Evening Prayer, the beautiful light shining through our stunning windows. Praying the Rosary, offered for all after the morning offices, I have stood by the Rosary windows, with the sun streaming through, and looking at each mystery as I pray it, and noticing much more detail in each than we normally take in as we just glance at them. Contemplating the great East Window with the different saints, the Apostles and Evangelists, most of whom were martyrs, and what they all went through in their times, and St Agnes, (Agnus – Lamb) thinking of the farming community surrounding us here, and St Cecelia, patron of music, thinking not only of our singers and musician's but also the many artists in our parish, and the beauty of the earth and sea; and St Piran and St Cuthbert Mayne, local to us in Cornwall. They are our brothers and sisters in faith to encourage, inspire and spur us on in these strange, difficult times. There they are 'in spite of dungeon, fire and sword.'

I was also struck by 2 articles in The Tablet. One by Mgr. Roderick Strange, "Living in the present moment," 'Isolation is alarming. In our present culture, attuned to constant, immediate, entertaining distractions, the prospect of enforced self –isolation is even more bewildering. How can we cope?'

Fr. Roderick says he found himself thinking of Cardinal Francis Xavier Nguyen Van Thuan, who was ordained bishop of Nha Trang in Vietnam in 1967 and was appointed coadjutor bishop of Saigon in 1975, just before it fell to the North Vietnamese Army. In August, on the Feast of the Assumption, he was arrested and spent the next thirteen years in prison, for nine of those years he was held in solitary confinement. Van Thuan describes the conditions in which he was held. He was in a cell without windows and for several days and nights the light would never be switched off, and then for several days and nights he would be plunged into total darkness." He went through

a terrible time, but learnt the value of the present moment. "This is the only time we have in our hands," he writes, "the past is already gone, and we do not know if there will be a future. The present moment is our great wealth."

As we come to terms with life in social isolation, are we becoming pre-occupied with the past or fretting about the future, or might we be able to see this present time, difficult as it may be, as gift?' The article is much longer, but I hope some of it may help in your 'pause for thought'.

Cardinal Van Thuan had to leave Vietnam and went to Rome. His talks were published as *Testimony of Hope*

The Other article was by Sara Maitland, and she says 'think not of Isolation but solitariness.' More positive.

### **The Pope's Prayer Intention for April:**

**Freedom from Addiction.** That those suffering from addiction may be helped and accompanied.

**All our parishioners:** For evangelisation in the parish. For all across the world caught up in natural disaster and Corona virus, and all NHS & all other emergency workers For all on our Sacramental programmes of Journey in Faith: First Reconciliation and Holy Communion, & Confirmation.

Our own sick, housebound & those in Hospitals or Hospice: Ray & Christine Blaker, Lynda Cripps, Christine Bunt, Tom Dauncey Jnr, Jackie Corsi, Sue Rowies, Hugo (3), Tony Noonan, Caroline Schofield, Grace Bailey, Fr. Richard Finn O.P. Kathy & Bob Carr, Roy Mulholland, Patsy & John Stevens, John Chamberlain, Christine Knowles, Audrey Evans, Anna Andrews, Sheila Devey. Elliot Slade, Lisa Thomas, Barbara Drew, Eileen Carson, Tony King, Daniel McWilliams, Len Hall & Carrie Williams and all lonely in the present crisis.

For those who have died, Eric Reeves & all who mourn.

Eric's graveside funeral is Thursday 11 a.m. at Longstone

**Some Items from last week: Guidance from the Bishop's Conference of England and Wales on various matters that concern us.**

### **Sacrament of Reconciliation**

In addition to the earlier guidance it is to be noted that confessions cannot be heard over the telephone. Requests for individual confession may be difficult to meet, given the demands of social distancing and the closure of our churches. Further guidance on this Sacrament is given below in the context of Easter Duties.

### **Dispensation from Easter Duties**

In their letter of 18<sup>th</sup> March 2020, the President and the Vice-President of the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales said "*in these emergency circumstances, and for as long as they last, the obligation to attend Mass on Sundays and Holy Days is removed. This is, without doubt, the teaching of the Church (Catechism of the Catholic Church 2181). This pandemic is the 'serious reason' why this obligation does not apply at this time.*"

Many of the faithful will be aware of their Easter Duties; that is to receive Holy Communion during the Easter Season and by custom, to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation beforehand. The Code of Canon Law (CIC 920) says *each of the faithful is obliged to receive Holy Communion at least once a year. This precept must be fulfilled during the Easter season unless it is fulfilled for a just cause at another time during the year.* The requirement for the celebration of the Sacrament of Reconciliation comes from the need to be in a state of grace to receive Holy Communion (CIC 916).

As it is not possible for the faithful to receive Holy Communion at this time, and into the future, the Bishops of

England and Wales have dispensed the Easter Duties for the year 2020.

The Bishops have asked that all should make a Perfect Act of Contrition at this time. Perfect contrition (or a Contrition of Charity) is true and real sorrow for our sins which is created when we realise the immense love of God for each one of us. We express this contrition when we realise how we offend God by our sinful words, deeds and omissions in contrast to the immeasurable love and mercy that he continually shows us.

This requires us to be contrite of heart for what we have done, know and be overwhelmed by the love and mercy of God for his children, and to approach this grace with humility and resolution not to sin again.

### **An Act of Contrition**

*My God, I am sorry for my sins with all my heart. In choosing to do wrong and failing to do good, I have sinned against you whom I should love above all things. I firmly intend, with your help, to do penance, to sin no more, and to avoid whatever leads me to sin. Our Saviour Jesus Christ suffered and died for us. In his name, my God, have mercy.*

### **Guidance celebration of Chrism Mass**

The Bishops of England and Wales noting that Pope Francis has deferred the Chrism Mass in Rome, so as a gesture of solidarity with the Holy Father the Chrism Mass and the Blessing of the Holy Oils will take place in our Cathedral at a later date, once the restrictions of the pandemic are raised. Our priests are asked to make a personal Renewal of Priestly commitment before the Blessed Sacrament on Maundy Thursday evening.

**All this parish celebrations will be private, but at the normal times for the Mass of the Triduum.**

If you are not watching elsewhere, you are welcome join me at the given times in your own homes, (not in church)

As priests over 70 the Bishop will not allow us to make any visits. **If someone needs the Last Rites, ring me, and one of the younger priests will come to you.**

**Graffiti:** was sprayed on the main church doors during last Monday night, doors that had been so beautifully restored for our 175<sup>th</sup>. We don't know who sprayed this but wonder if the writer was a scripture scholar, for the four words summed up the message of the gospel which we preach, which is **choose love, not fear**. While the method is questionable, the importance of the message is to not be bound by fear, love of family, friends, neighbours and colleagues is essential, and is the message of our faith. The Bible reminds us that perfect love casts out fear, and I'm ever reminding all that words like 'do not be afraid, don't worry, do not be anxious,' and such like occur at least 365 times in the Bible. Hear them each day, as each day unfolds for us at the moment. We choose love, not fear and you are welcome to visit when we are permitted to re-open the church after this lockdown. Someone very kindly has cleaned it off for us. Grateful thanks to them.

**DAY BY DAY:** I know some of you value this, and all the Lent ones went. Eastertide are here, and if you would like a copy be in touch and I can post one to you.

**Cancelled:** Diocesan pilgrimage to Lourdes and the children's catechetical camps. So far Walsingham still on.

**Congratulations** to Jenny & John Hollow: a 1<sup>st</sup> granddaughter born yesterday, Friday 3<sup>rd</sup>.

**Smile line.** *The aeroplane was full of all the nationalities sitting there, and an intercom announcement "This is your pilot speaking. I'm working from home today"*