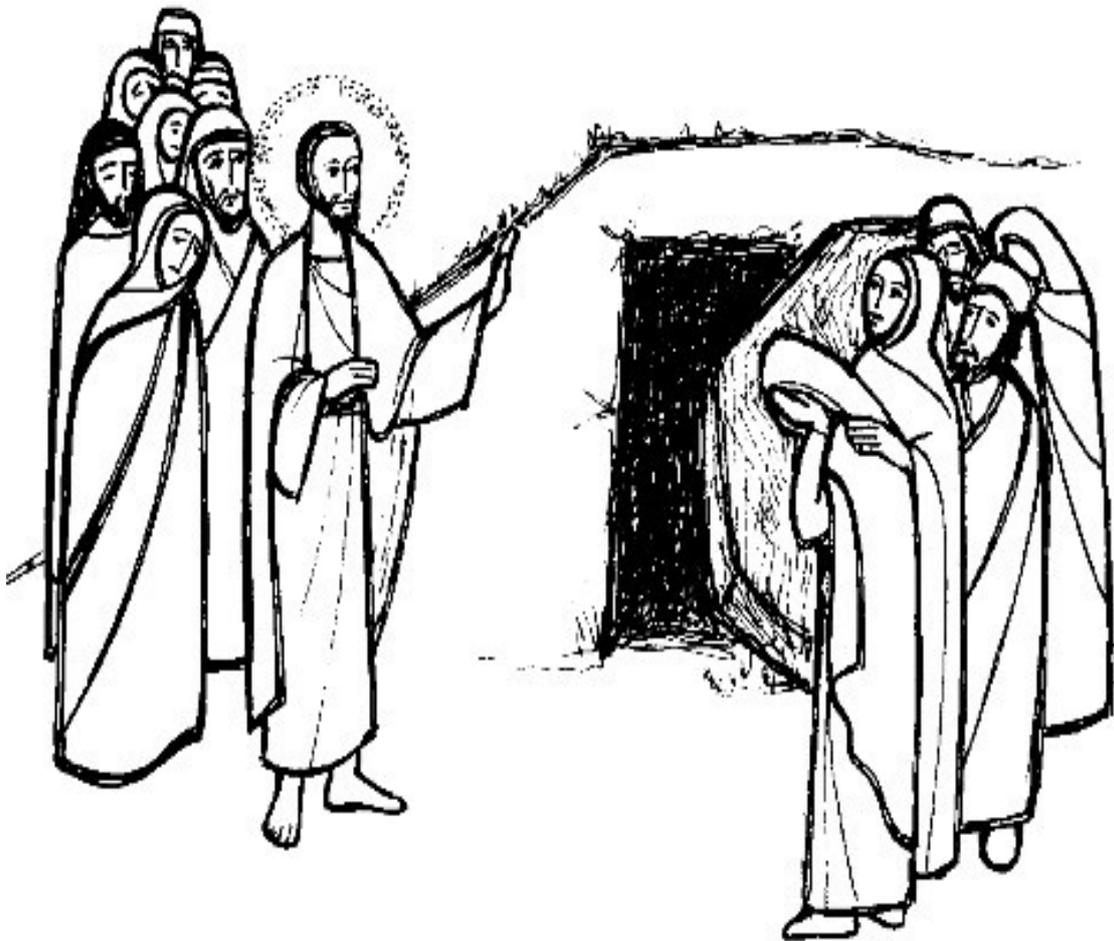


**NEWSLETTER OF THE
PARISH CHURCH OF ST PETER
JERSEY**



Issue 4, Holy Week & Easter, 12 Apr 2020

Dear Friends,

As many of you will know, I am an amateur astronomer and have been all my life since the age of sixteen.

During the period April to June this year, a **new comet** is due to appear in the sky and the whole world will be able to witness it. It can already be seen in telescopes, but if the predictions are correct, it will become visible with the **naked eye** in the hours of darkness. It is extremely rare for a comet to become as bright as this. Do you remember the last time this happened, when Comet Hale-Bopp became visible for all to see in the mid 1990s? It was an incredible sight and stretched across a significant part of the sky. There was no danger of



it hitting the earth, thank goodness, and it is the same with this new Comet, for at its nearest approach, it will be 72,000,000 miles away from the earth. Peoples right across the world when Hale-Bopp was in the sky, would go outside on the beautiful summer evenings and were spell bound by its beauty.

During **Holy Week and Easter**, we will all, I hope, look up in a different way: from our hearts.

On **Good Friday**, the day we remember the death of our Blessed Lord Jesus Christ, we raise our eyes to look up and ponder at Jesus on the cross. God, the creator of the whole universe, entered his own creation and became man, because, and for no reason other than that he loves us, with a self-giving, sacrificial love, to the extent that he gave himself up, for us. A love that knows no limit. So particularly on Good Friday look at Jesus on the cross: may your heart be moved with love for Jesus.

On **Easter Sunday** we look up in a completely different way: with radiant joy. Joy that God, in Jesus, has overcome death itself and that life eternal is freely available through him who is eternal undiluted love. Looking up at the comet will be beautiful, yet will be as nothing in comparison with the loving resurrection of Jesus, the Saviour of all that is.

In these dark times of the present emergency, may all of us look up and know that eternally, all is well, for we will be with Him in heaven eternally.

Keep safe. Keep well. A BLESSED EASTER TO YOU ALL.

God bless,

Father Michael

PALM CROSSES: please use them in your home!

These were blessed in the Palm Sunday Mass in the Parish Church with the customary prayers. By now you have probably received one in the post from me, they having been placed in each envelope by someone wearing gloves.

They are a vital and much valued focus for prayer in any Christian household: I commend their use to you in this way. In a very simple, quiet and reserved way, adorning your home with one also makes a statement that you are a follower(s) of Jesus and that you rely on his love and protection.

DEANERY OF JERSEY PRESS RELEASE: MEDIA RELEASE - 7 April 2020

Following a zoom meeting today of Church of England Clergy in Jersey, the Deanery of Jersey are announcing that from tomorrow, the 8th April, no services will be streamed live, or bells rung from any of its churches, until further notice.

This is to comply with the directive given by the Archbishops of Canterbury and York, asking all Clergy to remain at home wherever possible, in keeping with the guidelines issued by our respective governments and by which the general population are asked to abide. Services over the Easter weekend and until further notice, will continue to be streamed live from Clergy homes or pre-recorded using social media.

The Clergy also agreed to use other means to 'toll bells' and therefore invite all people throughout the Channel Islands, to ring any bells that they may have in their homes, or play the sound through a PA system, phone or hand held electronic device, from their gardens or driveways or out of windows, at 10am on Easter Sunday, as a means of celebrating the great festival of Easter.

The Deans of Jersey and Guernsey said: "Although, for the time being, we cannot use our wonderful buildings or stream services from within them,

congregations and clergy across the Channel Islands are using the internet in really creative ways to stream and record services and we look forward to people “joining” us on Easter Day. Please also ring or broadcast your bells from your homes, drives, gardens and balconies, at 10am on Easter Day to celebrate this great festival”. Ends.

WAYS TO WORSHIP IN YOUR OWN HOME:

MAUNDY THURSDAY on CHURCH WEB

1030 - A collection of photos of last year’s Seder Supper.

GOOD FRIDAY on CHURCH WEB

1030 – Good Friday Liturgy from The Rectory

EASTER SUNDAY on CHURCH WEB:

1000 Ring Bells and noise in your own homes and gardens!.....followed by....

1030 Mass and Paschal Ceremonies from The Rectory.

Go on www.stpeterschurch.org.je and click on the Church Facebook page. The service can be viewed at any time for seven days.

SUNDAYS Radio & TV:

0810 Each Sunday during the emergency there will be a Service on **Radio Jersey** linked in with the national UK radio: the first week’s service was led by The Archbishop of Canterbury.

1315 Songs of Praise (BBC 2, TV)

1500 As always, *every week of the year* on **Radio 3** listen to the glories of **Choral Evensong** from a different Cathedral or Abbey each week which is a repeat from the previous Wednesday 1530 broadcast. Available for 30 days on BBC Sound.

SUNDAYS: 1900 - LIGHT A CANDLE AND PLACE IT IN A WINDOW VISIBLE FROM YOUR STREET

This simple initiative is from the Archbishop of Canterbury: it will help you and others to know that God, through Jesus, is the light of the world and is always

with us. Beware of curtains!! Electric candles are best, if you have them. Please leave them lit for at least an hour, but preferably all evening. Look at the candle: think about what some are already going through and pray for them.

WEDNESDAYS on Radio 3

1530 As always, *every week of the year* on **Radio 3**, listen to the glories of **Choral Evensong** from a different Cathedral or Abbey each week, repeated on the following Sunday at 1500. Available for 30 days on BBC Sound.

CROSS, PALM CROSS especially at this time, CRUCIFIX, ICON

Use these as a focus for your prayers in your own home

PRAY FOR THE SICK: Suzette Bradshaw; Dave; Elis; Donald English; Audrey Gem; Peggy Harrison; Jonathan Harvey; Peter Heath; Lester Huelin; Jack Johns; Robin Mallet; Molly; Stephan Mauger; John Le Riche; Riley. All virus sufferers

PRAY FOR THE DEPARTED: All those who have died from this terrible virus



The Angelus:
please use this in your own homes to pray at noon each day

Please pray for all those affected by the virus and their families, as well as for your loved ones and yourself.

V. The Angel of the Lord brought tidings to Mary,
R. And she conceived of the Holy Spirit.

V. Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee. Blessed are you among all women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb, Jesus.

R. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now, and at the hour of our death. Amen

V. Behold the handmaid of the Lord.

R. Be it done unto me according to Your Word.

V. Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee. Blessed are you among all women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb, Jesus.

R. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now, and at the hour of our death. Amen

V. And the Word was made flesh,

R. And dwelt among us.

V. Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee. Blessed are you among all women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb, Jesus.

R. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now, and at the hour of our death. Amen

V. Pray for us, O holy Mother of God.

R. That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

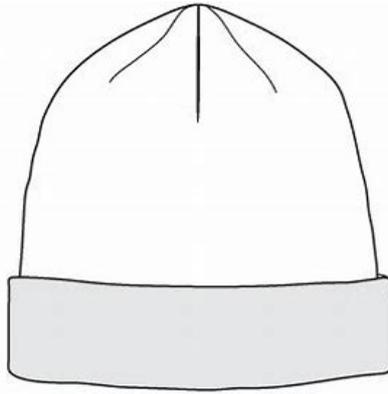
V. We beseech You, O Lord, to pour your grace into our hearts; that as we have known the incarnation of your Son Jesus Christ by the message of an angel, so by His and + cross and passion we may be brought to the glory of His Resurrection; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord.

R. Amen.

DO YOU HAVE A UK STATE PENSION? A NEW DEVELOPMENT:

Some news from a Parishioner that may be of use to you! I heard this morning that it is now possible to do this over the phone: 01912187777

The Pensions Authority Clerk on the phone, apparently will ask you a few questions and that is that. If you get stuck in a long queue, and you would still rather me counter-sign don't be afraid to say! I'd be interested to see how you get on though!



ARE YOU BORED AT HOME OR CAN'T GET OUT, YET YOU SOMEHOW WANT TO HELP PEOPLE?!

By the way, can you knit? Well putting on my **Mission to Seafarers** Chaplain's "hat", how would you like to knit a woolly hat or hats for Seafarers to be given out in Advent, just before Christmas when we go onto the ships to give them out, to those Seafarers whose ships are docked in our port here in Jersey whilst cargo is unloaded. They really do appreciate them. A pattern can be provided: if you want one please email me back and I can supply one to you.

Sadly, the virus means that we are unable to go onto the ships at Easter, to give out Easter Eggs as is normally done, so it would be a really great gesture if we could make a big effort to knit lots of hats in readiness for Christmas!

HITS:

Hope you are enjoying the newsletters and the services from church. I've been told that apparently we have had (adding up the three weeks) that there have now been over a 1000 'hits'. Amazing!!!

The next Issue of this Newsletter and Service on line, will be in two weeks time on Sunday 26 April 2020.

Father Michael Phillips,

Rector of St Peter, Jersey

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Church Website: www.stpeterschurch.org.je

Church Facebook: go on the website and click on the Facebook to see the Services from The Rectory at 1030 on each occasion.