

The Parish of St. Edward the Confessor

Registered Charity no. 234025

Father Peter Cryan

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Newsletter for the week of 17th April 2022

Sunday Readings Cycle C

Weekday Readings Cycle II

Readings for Easter Day: Acts 10: 34,37-43; Psalm 117; Colossians 3:1-14; Luke 24:1-12

Saturday 16th April **8.30pm EASTER VIGIL & 1st MASS of EASTER**

Sunday 17th April **10.30am EASTER DAY MASS**

Monday 18th April 9.30am Mass

Mass Intention Brian Hazledine 1st Anniv. RIP

Tuesday 19th April

Wednesday 20th April 11.00am Mass

Mass Intention: Catherine Attracta Folliard RIP

Thursday 21st April

Friday 22nd April 7.00pm Mass

Saturday 23rd April 5.30pm 1st Mass of 2nd Sunday of Easter

Sunday 24th April 10.30am Mass: 2nd Sunday of Easter

Readings for 2nd Easter: Acts 5:12-16; Psalm 117; Apocalypse 1:9-13,17-19; John 20:19-31



A Happy & Joyful Easter

A FACE MASK/ COVERING & HAND SANITIZING ON ENTRANCE ARE REQUIRED BOTH IN CHURCH AND IN THE COMMUNITY ROOM

ARRANGEMENTS for EASTER

-Easter Vigil 8.30pm Starts with congregation in place in an unlit church. The lit Paschal Candle solemnly brought in with progressive lighting of congregation's candles then "Exultet" Hymn sung. Two O.T readings, one N.T reading & Gospel, Blessing of water, renewal of Baptismal promises. Liturgy of the Eucharist as normal
Easter Day 10.30am: Mass as normal with renewal of Baptismal Promises. Offertory Collection for the *Holy Places*

HOLY PLACES COLLECTION for the upkeep of the churches & shrines & support for the Catholic Communities in the Holy Land will be taken on Good Friday, Easter Vigil & Easter Sunday in place of the offertory.

OFFERTORY ENVELOPES

Sets of Envelopes for the year '22 -23' have started to be used with some spare sets still available. Fill in the card & return inside the 1st envelope that you use. Using an envelope to put your offering in does not of itself commit you to giving any particular amount nor making a *Gift Aided* offering. It's simply a way to remind yourself of you wishing to support the Church regularly: that what you are giving is an "*Offering to God and to work of his Church*"

SHREWSBURY DIOCESE SYNODAL REPORT

Copies are available to take away which include 1) The Report of the Synodal Responses of the faithful of the Diocese 2) The Discernment the Bishop has made as result of the listening process in the Diocese.. A digital copy on request by from Fr. Peter on st.edmacc@gmail.com

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED GIVING

Last Sunday's Offertory £102.00

FUNERAL Fri 6th May 10.45am Funeral Mass for *Lorraine Acton* who died suddenly at the end of March. Loretta was a Minister of Holy Communion at the 10.30am Mass for several years. May she rest in peace to rise with Christ.

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

Mon 16th May 7.30pm Agenda items by 8th May to Chair Judy Bailey email: judyb100@hotmail.co.uk. mob: 07773 979371; Vice-Chair: Steve James email sjames2@btinternet.com; mob:07946 148531; Sec: Denise Beck email: denesque@hotmail.co.uk mob: 07769 536103

HELP to UKRAINIAN PEOPLE

- Go to *the Aid to the Church in Need (ACN)* to <https://acnuk.org/> ACN has long standing links with the Church in the Ukraine & Eastern Europe, they are well placed to give help .
- Go to the CAFOD website page at <https://cafod.org.uk/News/Emergencies-news/Ukraine-crisis> which is part of the *Disasters Emergency Committee (DEC)* Appeal for Ukraine

GET IN TOUCH QUICKLY –IF YOU ARE SICK If you or your relative enters Macclesfield Hospital let Fr. Peter know as soon as possible tel: 01625 423576 or by e-mail st.edmacc@gmail.com

GIVING WITH GIFT AID

Those who regularly give to the Church, if they are income tax payers, can boost the amount they give to Church by something like 20%. They need to record their giving either through a Bankers/Standing Order or by handing in their offertory in an envelope which is recorded by our *Parish Gift Aid Organiser, Chris Doyle* who is very willing to explain the scheme to you e-mail: chris.doyle46@ntlworld.com

Easter's Cosmic Meaning



Rising from the grave is not merely a nice thing that happened to the dead Jesus. There's Jesus' Easter resurrection has cosmic meaning. Easter's cosmic meaning is this: just as Jesus died, so also will this cosmos come to an end. Further, just as Jesus rose from the dead, this cosmos will enjoy a renewal, a transformation, a new creation. Easter is yesterday's microcosm of tomorrow's macrocosm.

Well, here is an idea worth thinking about : *Jesus' Easter resurrection is a prolepsis of the New Creation.* That word, *prolepsis*, means that Easter anticipates the future of the world. Easter pre-incarnates, so to speak, the future renewal of all things. Just as Jesus was raised by God on the first Easter, so God will rescue this estranged creation by transforming it into a New Creation. "The proleptic character of the Christ event, [signifies that] the resurrection of Jesus is indeed infallibly the dawning of the end of history," wrote an eminent theologian called Wolfhart Panneberg . Therefore, "the resurrection of the dead, which already happened to Jesus, is still outstanding" for us

The God who is creating this world is not done yet. This world will not be fully created until it's redeemed. The resurrection of Jesus Christ in his person anticipates the renewal of all things yet to come. So, Easter's cosmic meaning is that Easter is a promise, God's pledge, a down payment on universal transformation of the world, on the universal transformation of the cosmos.

W THE WEDNESDAY WORD

Encountering Christ Prayerfully preparing for the Sunday Mass

Preparing for the Mass of Sunday 17th April 2022 - Easter Sunday



1 Relax & Remember

Set aside 10 -15 minutes and create a suitable environment by removing any distractions. Make sure that you are comfortable. Perhaps light a candle. Make the sign of the cross † and remain still for a minute of settling silence. Call to mind the love that God has for you. Remember that through this scripture our Lord is truly present. Then read the Gospel, preferably aloud and slowly, and pay attention to any words that stand out. If any do, meditate on them for a few minutes and be invited into a dialogue with God.



2 Read

Taken from the Gospel for Sunday 17th April 2022 - The Empty Tomb (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.

3 Reflect

After spending a few minutes considering this Gospel, continue by reading Fr Henry Wansbrough's reflection.

There are several accounts in the various gospels of the discovery of the empty tomb. The slight variations between them show all the marks of oral tradition, for in genuine oral tradition each 'performance' is different. Different people tell the story slightly differently, stressing different aspects. This story in John's Gospel places emphasis on proving that the tomb really was empty, for the apostles examine the evidence carefully. Other accounts concentrate less on the evidence and more on the message, that the disciples will meet the Risen Lord in Galilee. It was important to establish that the tomb was empty, to prevent the charge that the meetings with the Risen Christ were simply ghost-appearance accounts. Apart from the proof that the risen Jesus was a real, living and bodily person, these encounters stress two other things - the power of the risen Christ and the commission given to the disciples. The disciples are to go out into the whole world and spread the message, always accompanied and strengthened by Christ himself. In this account of John's, Simon Peter is clearly the senior, authority figure, to whom the Beloved Disciple defers. But it is the love of the Beloved Disciple which immediately brings Peter to faith.

What is the best way in which I can proclaim the Good News of Christ's resurrection?

Dom Henry Wansbrough OSB

4 Respond & Request

Now slowly and prayerfully read the Gospel once again but this time in silence. Consider how this Gospel could apply to your life in general. Then thank God for any insight you may have received. Conclude by asking God to bless you with one of the following spiritual gifts to help you act on any resolution you have made: love, understanding, wisdom, faithfulness, peace, self control, patience, or joy. Please remember to pray for the Church and particularly our school families. Then conclude by requesting the prayers of Our Lady & St Joseph.



*The Wednesday Word is under the patronage of St Joseph, Patron Saint of Families and Protector of the Church
Within the tradition of the Catholic Church, each Wednesday is dedicated to St Joseph*

WEDNESDAY WORD PLUS



Fr Henry's reflections on the first and second readings of Sunday 17th April 2022

First Reading: *Peter Instructs Cornelius*

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 - we have eaten and drunk with him after his resurrection from the dead - 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."

Peter was speaking to Cornelius. Cornelius was the Roman centurion who already revered God and had had a vision that he should invite Peter to come and instruct him. Peter emphasises that Jesus was a real human being; he went about bringing God's peace to everyone he could meet; nevertheless, he was executed as a criminal; so God responded by raising him from death to a life that was totally new. This was the fulfilment of all the promises made to Israel, bringing to completion God's plan in creation. Life moved into a new gear. Peter goes on to state that God has appointed the risen Jesus to judge the living and the dead. The Jews expected that at the end of time, at the completion of all things, God would come to set everything to rights, to judge things according to their true worth. Now Peter says that Jesus is the one who will be this judge. Jesus is the Lord who completes all things and brings them to judgment. By his rising from the dead Jesus is given supreme authority over the whole world. Paul put it this way, that he was 'constituted Son of God in power' by the resurrection.

What does it mean to say that I really believe that Jesus is 'Son of God in power' by his resurrection? Do I act as though I believe this?

Second Reading: *New Life in Christ*

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.

This reading is like the visible tip of an iceberg, because much more lies below the surface! Paul here tells us that all our interest must be in heavenly things, the things of Christ, because we share Christ's life. What is more, that life is no ordinary life. What does all this mean? We share Christ's life because faith in Christ means that we put all our trust and hope in Christ. We have been baptised into Christ, that is, by baptism we have been dipped into Christ as into a river, and come up soaked with, dripping with Christ. I am growing into Christ, to share his inheritance, his status as Son of God. The well-spring of my life is no longer the ordinary, natural life which enables me to live, breathe, digest, feel, see, sing and play, love and hate. It is the Spirit of Christ which spurs me to generosity, service, kindness, self-control, peace and openness. This life, says Paul, is still hidden, and will be fully manifested only at the coming of Christ. But if I am to be true to my profession of faith in baptism, the principles on which I base my life must be those of this risen life of Christ, here and now.

What should I do this Easter to prove to myself that I live with the new life of Christ?

“It is the Spirit of Christ which spurs me on.”

The Wednesday Word: *Connecting Home, School & Parish through the Word of God w:*
www.wednesdayword.org e: info@wednesdayword.org