

THE PORTICO



“A lonely place” in Truro: an unfamiliar St Mary’s Aisle, Truro Cathedral. Even with the holiday crowds much in evidence, there are still lonely places for quiet contemplation and prayer

On Retreat

“You must go into some lonely place all by yourselves and rest awhile.”
Mark 6:31

I stood and watched a small ladybird climb a stalk of grass, remain still for a moment, open its wings and try to fly - it fell back to the ground. I stayed there and willed it on and after the 4th attempt, it took flight.

When do we find the time to watch a ladybird learn to fly, observe how cleverly a blackbird plucks the choicest berries

When do we stop and find a silence so deep no human noises penetrate and finally see the signs of God in everything we see, think, hear, read or do and accept His invitation to come closer?

On a 6 day silent Retreat in 2004, I found all this and more. God says “I will come to you in silence.” And he does.

Molly

Congratulations!

Congratulations to George and Neethu on the birth of Emmanuel.

Prayers please

for Noelle who passed away last week. Noelle was daughter of Peter Bott and late of this parish. Rest in peace.

Greetings, Thanks, & Blessings from:

Jane, Nan, Mary & Andrew, Jennie

“Thank you to the kind parishioners who thought to telephone those of us who live alone and felt isolated. My especial thanks to Carmen and Paul Hart, Rosemary & Jenny for the shopping, the Newsletter & the fruit and veg from the garden. May God bless all of you for your kindness at such an uncertain time.” *(Jennie)*

Messages

That’s good Lydia got married last weekend, it shows that things are



helping local people in crisis



SVP Truro
07474-941099
For help or a chat

CAFOD:

It’s time to #CancelTheDebt
Add your name to our petition to the Government to cancel poor countries’ debt for 2020/21

Keep in Touch

To join our mailing list
WRITE to us at:
jenny.kwee@me.com



“A community of communities?” a past gathering of Cornwall Deanery folk, hosted by Our Lady of the Portal parishioners.

Pastoral Conversion of the parish community

The Vatican’s Congregation for the Clergy recently issued a new instruction on reforming parishes and restructuring dioceses to better serve the evangelising mission of the church. Although mainly aimed at the clergy, it has a number of points which are both interesting and relevant to all readers.

The Instruction starts with the reminder that the Church is “called upon to foster pastoral conversion, whereby Christian communities be ever more centres conducive to an encounter with Christ” declaring that this conversion concerns the Parish in particular.”

It acknowledges the many social, economic and environmental changes that have impinged on our practice of Catholicism and continue to do so; it admits that “the call to review and renew our parishes has not yet sufficed to bring them nearer to people, to

make them environments of living communion and participation, and to make them completely mission-oriented”

The instruction therefore reaffirms the idea of the Parish as a “living community of believers”. The various components that make up the Parish are called to communion and unity, to take responsibility to renew, regenerate this community for the fulfilment of our mission. In this regard we are admonished to be mindful that evangelisation and charity are two sides of the same coin: “In this present age, marked at times by marginalisation and solitude, the Parish community is called to be a living sign of the proximity of Christ through fraternal bonds, ever attentive to new forms of poverty.” So the Parish, “called to reach out to everyone, without exception, must remember that the poor and excluded must always have a privileged place in the heart of the Church.”

It calls on us to embrace change and to face the unknown with

getting back to normal.
Sam

SIGN OF PEACE

“I agree that it will be lovely when we can exchange the sign of peace again at Mass. It is a great reminder that we are called to worship as a community and not as private individuals. “

“I too miss the sign of peace. We are a community of Christians and that is the only moment in Mass when we acknowledge each other. “

“Perhaps we could make a 'non-touching' acknowledgement to each other (a bow or a wave).
(Nan & Mary)

hope, invoking Pope Francis: “More than my fear of going astray, my hope is that we will be moved by the fear of remaining shut up within structures which give us a false sense of security, within rules which make us harsh judges, within habits which make us feel safe, while at our door people are starving and Jesus does not tire of saying to us: “Give them something to eat” (Mk 6:37)”

Much of the document sets out guidance and recommendations on ways of moving forward within existing church laws and norms, with sections on pastoral ministry within the parish, the pastoral council, the sacraments, and parish and diocesan structures. However it emphasises that “It does not pertain to the clergy

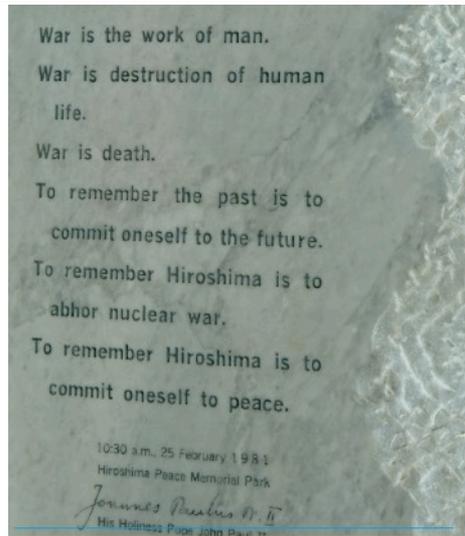
alone to carry out the transformation inspired by the Holy Spirit, since this involves the entire People of God.” According to Mgr Andrea Ripa, Under-secretary of the Congregation for the Clergy, the document seeks to “foster a greater co-responsibility and collaboration among all the baptised”.

Cardinal Stella, its Prefect, said that “the parish perhaps has been treated so far almost like a palace, a castle to be guarded, to be protected.... It seems to me that we have to remove the keys, open the doors, air out the room, and go outside”

A document worth studying!

(Peter)

The “Instruction on Pastoral Conversion of the parish community ...” can be read and downloaded from the Vatican site here 



“To remember Hiroshima is to commit oneself to peace”

St John Paul 2

Evening Prayers
 Monday 17 August 2020.
 6pm start via ZOOM
 Contact Dcn Andrew Shute at andrew.Shute@pccdtr.org.uk for joining instructions.

ASYLUM

They risk their lives and leave behind their homes and all they once possessed.

They put their trust in unknown men to bring them safe to a distant shore.

They hope for merciful hands to help them to a new home in a new place,

To a life not lived in fear & hiding.

May we deserve their thanks and trust.

May we be the means of fulfilling their hopes and dreams.

(Jenny)



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Peace be with you!

(Jenny & Peter)

Pastoral Conversion:

A number of people have started reading the Instruction on parish reform and sent us their initial observations:

“ one sentence that struck a chord was the sentence about 'parishes appearing to be more interested in preserving a nostalgia of former times as opposed to looking to the future with courage.’ ”

“I was particularly taken by the paragraphs (101 to 114) dealing with the appointment of Financial Councils and Pastoral Councils. A Financial Council must be appointed and a Pastoral Council may ordinarily be considered as highly recommended, as Pope Francis recalled ‘How necessary pastoral councils are! A Parish Priest cannot guide without pastoral councils’. There's lots more to take in from this document!”

“I suppose the key thing for me is the role of the laity in the shaping the parish, helping make it a living, responsive body that accepts traditional culture within our faith but isn't constrained by it to the detriment of Jesus's message of love. Perhaps we need to be challenged more about how we enact this”