

THE PORTICO

Flowers in Church?

With access to church so severely restricted by Covid-19, we realised recently how easy it is (in



normal times) to take things for granted - like the flowers in church. Mostly working on their own, except for the big festivals like Christmas and Easter, the members of our church flower team quietly and invisibly produce arrangements which enhance our worship through their beauty. When Anne joined the flower group in 1987 there were several "really talented" enthusiasts who belonged to local Floristry groups. Sadly, many of them have now moved on so the number of flower arrangers is much smaller (just 3 or 4). Nevertheless, they keep the displays coming, so we just wanted to say "Thank you" to the flower arrangers and let them know we appreciate their efforts!

COVID vaccine at home?

As far as we know, all housebound parishioners have been vaccinated at home, but if readers know of anyone who has transport

difficulties with getting access to the COVID-19 jab, call the SVP number below and they will help sort something out.

Meanwhile, all fellow parishioners that we know of in local residential homes have also been vaccinated. However, visiting rules have varied and seem very confusing. One allows 2 visitors, another permits visitors to speak to residents through the front door, while a third doesn't allow visitors at all. We expect that we can't be too careful right now but it would be wonderful to get back to more normal visiting again!

Reading from Job

Like Jonah, Job is not biographical. It is a moral story, a parable about the meaning of suffering in the life of a good man. God allows Satan to try Job, and he loses everything, children, flocks and herds, and sits in the ashes covered in ulcers. He is interrogated by three friends, all looking for a reason for his misfortune, but Job will not reject or condemn God. God speaks too of the power and beauty of creation. Finally all is restored to Job, his enduring faith is recognised.

Read the opening and last chapters.

(Anon)

Messages

Just Asking: Has anyone else noticed that no-one seems to have had a cold this winter? Let us know if we're wrong - otherwise it's masks for us with or without pandemic! (Terri)

I loved the Tanners and Bobs poem too. (Jennie B)

At Malpas last Saturday - I find it's best to leave duck food at



the side of the pond, less chance of it sinking. (Sam)

Anyone for snowdrops ?



(Paul V)

Evening Prayers - Live

Mondays at 6pm.

Contact Dcn Andrew Shute for joining instructions at Andrew.Shute@pcdtr.org.uk

ALL WELCOME!



needs tinned fruit,
packets of rice and
toilet rolls



SVP Truro
07474-941099
For help or a chat

CAFOD:

Reclaim our Common Home

Let's rebuild a more dignified and sustainable world.

Sign the petition to our PM [here](#)

Keep in Touch

Join our mailing list.
Send greetings, news etc.

WRITE to us at:
theportico@icloud.com

Our Lady of Lourdes

Feastday: 11th February

Our Lady of Lourdes, we come to you like little Bernadette at the Grotto.

We pray with childlike trust in you. Immaculate Mother, pray that we may have hope in times of trial.

Immaculate Mother, pray for the grace of God to be our strength in these times of sickness and suffering. *(Mary B)*



Wild Geese (by Mary Oliver)

You do not have to be good.
 You do not have to walk on your knees
 for a hundred miles through the desert, repenting.
 You only have to let the soft animal of your body
 love what it loves.
 Tell me about despair, yours, and I will tell you mine.
 Meanwhile the world goes on.
 Meanwhile the sun and the clear pebbles of the rain
 are moving across the landscapes,
 over the prairies and the deep trees,
 the mountains and the rivers.
 Meanwhile the wild geese, high in the clean blue air,
 are heading home again.
 Whoever you are, no matter how lonely,
 the world offers itself to your imagination,
 calls to you like the wild geese, harsh and exciting—
 over and over announcing your place
 in the family of things.

(Sent by Gill C)

Fairtrade Fortnight: Choose The World You Want

FAIRTRADE FORTNIGHT
22 FEBRUARY – 7 MARCH



Many will remember (and miss) the Trading Post, behind the Library in Truro, where we could buy a range of Fairtrade goods. The good news is that there will be a Fairtrade stall at Falmouth Town Market on the 2 Saturdays in Fairtrade Fortnight - 27th February & 6th March 2021, from 9am-4pm.

Fairtrade products sold in the UK, generate a



premium that goes direct to farmers and workers who decide where best to spend it to benefit their whole community. Fairtrade means fair pay, gender equality, farming with care, opportunity for all, sustainable businesses and support for farmers in mitigating and adapting to the climate crisis. See more on 'Choose the World you Want' [here](#)

Echoing the Word of God

Pope Francis last week called on catechists to pray and think creatively about a catechesis based on personal encounter with the person of Jesus, one that expresses the elements most needed today - God's saving love and an appeal to freedom marked by joy.

The Pope calls for a renewal of catechesis inspired by the Second Vatican Council, one that "is continually listening to the heart of the man, always with an attentive ear..."; one that "inspires every sphere of pastoral care."

Catechesis also needs a communal dimension. Community, he said, "is not an agglomeration of individuals, but the family into which we are integrated, the place where we take care of each other." He therefore calls for a renewed catechesis "which looks to the future of our communities, so that they may be ever more rooted in the Gospel, communities that are fraternal, and inclusive." Read more from Vatican News [here](#)

CAFOD Family Fast Day Friday 26th February

Abdella is 23 years old and lives in the mountains of Ethiopia. Every single day, he spends 10 hours walking to fetch water for his parents and siblings. Solar pumps could bring water to his village and



give him back his days. To see Abdella's story click [here](#).

Please help CAFOD help Abdella to follow his dreams.

To donate send a cheque to CAFOD at Romero House, 55 Westminster Bridge Road, London, SE1 7JB.

Or give by texting LENT 10 to 70460 to give £10 (or LENT 20 to give £20 etc)

Or give by visiting [the CAFOD website here](#) to donate online.

