

THE PORTICO

The Lockdown...one year on!



*Pope Francis prays in empty St Peter's Square a year ago, on 29 March 2020.
How to put in words one's emotional response to this image of the pandemic!*

Lead, Kindly Light, amidst th'encircling gloom,
Lead Thou me on!
The night is dark, and I am far from home,
Lead Thou me on!
Keep Thou my feet; I do not ask to see
The distant scene; one step enough for me.

(St John Henry Newman)

Our Parish, Our Church: What does the future hold?

On 1st May 2021, Bishop Mark is re-starting the "Precious Place" review of parish structures in the diocese with an online event led by international speaker Michael Dopp, on Missionary Parishes. Designed to engage both clergy and laity in addressing the key issues raised by [A Precious Place](#),

the two 1-hour sessions aim to help us explore how we live out our mission in our lives, as a parish, and throughout the diocese in these changing times.

Join THE conversation on our future as a parish!

Follow this link to [register for this event](#) which will take place on Saturday 1 May 2021 (11am-noon, then 1-2pm).

Messages

Thank you for the latest edition of the Portico. The Bishops' letter offers a glimmer of hope, as we've got through a year of lockdown. Best wishes, *Sam*

As always many thanks from us both. *Francis and Mary*

Congratulations on celebrating your first year with Portico. Long may it last. *David*

Thank you again for all you are doing. *Deacon Andrew and Margaret*

The US Government recently explained that the recent surge in border crossings is normal, because at this time of year they can walk further without dying in the desert. This image has haunted me for days. *Peter*

Please pray for:

Christians throughout the world who are unable to gather for worship this Eastertide, remembering those imprisoned and persecuted for their beliefs

the 45,000 Rohingya refugees made homeless when fire swept through their camp in Bangladesh this week

the 3 million people have been bereaved in the Covid epidemic
(thanks to Mary B.)



needs long-life milk;
breakfast cereals incl
porridge; jams and
marmalades



Truro Group
Our family in Christ
helping each other
07474-941099

Need help getting online?

If anyone needs any help going online, using ZOOM or finding an online mass etc, SVP Truro can help

Keep in Touch

Join our mailing list.
Send greetings, news etc.
WRITE to us at:
theportico@icloud.com

THE PORTICO

Parish Soup Lunch



Our first Parish Soup Lunch (pictured above) at the end of the Portico was just a month ago on 28 February but it may feel to some of us like a million years ago! Still, it's something to look forward to when we can meet again in groups of more than two!

Keeping in Touch

Our project to keep our parish in touch is doing really well!

• Our effort to set up an email distribution list has had a very positive response. There are now more than 70 of us in this network, and several of you have passed the message on to other parishioners who are adding to it. Keep them coming!

• We have already "reconnected" some parishioners. Isn't it funny how we sometimes value the greatest things when we have contact with them? We can't thank the Lord too much for this!

(continued overleaf)

Messages

You have given me some very helpful messages. I will be sure to read them and thank you for them.

It is so lovely to read all these messages and to see you are all so active in the life of the Church. We can't thank the Lord too much for this!



Issue 1 of The Portico

THE PORTICO...one year old!

Issue 1 of THE PORTICO was published on 29 March 2020! Intended only as a temporary, occasional newsletter to keep our Truro community together during the first Lockdown, little did we suspect that we would be publishing Issue 38, one year on! (All back issues are available online at the-portico.com)

We are deeply grateful to all our contributors and readers for their good wishes, help and encouragement as well as their challenges this past year, without which we would not have had the stamina to get this far.

With the Spring equinox, clocks springing forward, and the third lockdown now easing albeit cautiously, we look forward to?

Our Lady Star of the Sea, St Mawes

Readers of the weekly Parish Bulletin will be familiar with seeing “& Our Lady Star of the Sea & St Anthony” in the heading, and for years St Mawes was represented in our Parish Pastoral Council. However, it may surprise some of you to know that St Mawes has for a long time been a parish in its own right. Although small in number, in summer it plays host to a much larger congregation, as visitors flock to this picturesque seaside village.



The Church there has a chequered history. It was originally built for a break-away Methodist group known as “Bible Christians” and started life as their Chapel, the first service being held on Christmas Day 1875. After the Bible Christians reunited with the Methodists in 1932, the Chapel fell into disuse and lay empty five years before the small Catholic community raised £750 (more than 7 times the average working man’s annual wage at the time) to buy, restore and extend the empty building. The first Mass was celebrated in 1938, but the village did not have a priest in residence.

A Presbytery was built in 1946 which accommodated visiting priests before the first resident priest, Mgr. Harold Shepherd CBE, was installed in 1956. The Centenary of the church was celebrated on 6 May 1975 with a special ecumenical service.

The church itself is a stone building, fairly plain and simple inside as befits its origins, and is a bit of a steep climb from the harbour. It makes for a pleasant visit down-river from Truro especially when it’s warm and sunny - and as all who have been on one of past parish trips will recall, our St Mawes family and Fr Terence have always been such excellent and welcoming hosts on those occasions!

Holy Week online

The Vatican’s Congregation for Divine Worship has asked that those of us who cannot attend the liturgies in their own church during Holy Week, should follow our Bishop’s celebrations “as a sign of unity.” Plymouth Cathedral Youtube channel is [here](#). Details also on their website [here](#).

Lourdes Grotto livestream



You can’t visit Lourdes right now, but you can see the grotto (and watch Mass) live-streamed [here](#).

Justice & Peace Bulletin

(CT Falmouth & Penryn) can be found on the Portico website [here](#)

from The Prayer Tree

In order to be truthful
 We must do more than speak the truth.
 We must also hear truth.
 We must also receive truth.
 We must also act upon truth.
 We must also search for truth.
 The difficult truth.
 Within us and around us.
 We must devote ourselves to truth.
 Otherwise we are dishonest
 And our lives are mistaken.
 God grant us the strength and the courage
 To be truthful.

Michael Leunig



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