

# THE PORTICO

## A Precious Place - Restart Event

On Saturday, Bishop Mark introduced a *Precious Place* relaunch event attended by 200+ clergy and laypeople from our Diocese. Michael Dobbs from Ottawa was the main speaker for both sessions, which also included smaller discussion groups. They impressed on us the immediacy and priority of our co-responsibility as clergy and laity to “go and make disciples”, and that this takes place in “the parish” where we live out our faith.

Talk and discussion also focused on issues such as what success looks like, what is a “church on fire” with the holy spirit, and conditions needed for parish renewal.

How can we become that joyful, vibrant, prayerful community which draws others into a knowledge of Christ? This is the central challenge we were asked to take back into our parishes. However, in order to set goals for the future, we have to know where we are today. We need a really honest review of our current state as a parish (no blame; no judgement) - only then can we make a plan to become truly a ‘church on fire’. This is the next step in the Precious Place parish restructuring review.

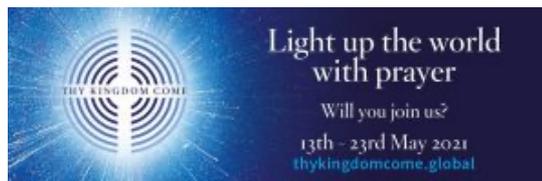


*Michael Dobbs speaking at the Precious Place re-launch event*

## Thy Kingdom Come 13 - 23 May 2021

Bishop Mark is encouraging us to participate in the Thy Kingdom Come global

Christian initiative. He writes: “the period between the Ascension and Pentecost has always been a most precious time for Christian believers. For Catholics, those nine days, we often pray the Novena of the Holy Spirit.” He urges us to



visit the website for resources for both adults and children, that help us “to pray, during that period, for a fresh outpouring of the Holy Spirit”

Bishop Mark’s message: [here](#)  
website: [Thy Kingdom Come](#)

## Messages

How lovely to see the photo of the happy couple! God bless them both. *Yvonne*

Helen and Christian look really happy cutting their wedding cake, good to see. *Sam*

I watched Helen and Christian’s wedding - it was lovely! Can you please send them my congratulations and my wishes for all the best for the future. God Bless *Angela*.

Congratulations on your one year of Portico. It is a great to have done this and I do find it interesting to read. *Mary*

Hope Arlana gets well soon.

Prince Philip visiting Truro in 1981 was the year I was born. Showing my age! *Sam*



*Nature’s Canvas (photo by Paul V)*

## Lost touch with someone?

Let us know and we can help pass on your contact details.



Truro Foodbank needs  
Tinned potatoes rice  
pudding & fruit.



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](mailto:theportico@icloud.com)

## May: Month of Mary



### Flores de Mayo

(Spanish for "flowers of May") is a festival that originated in the Philippines. It is one of the devotions to the Blessed Virgin Mary and continues for the entire year. This lovely photo of Rita and Tony Barber was taken when this event was celebrated here in Truro a few years ago - thanks to Ginny for the photo.

### Pope opens Marathon of Prayer with Rosary

This month sees a Marathon of Prayer, when each day the Rosary is said in a different Marian shrine. 31 Marian Shrines around the world will take part in this Marathon.

“At the beginning of this month dedicated to Our Lady,” the Holy Father said at the launch, “We join together in prayer with all the sanctuaries spread throughout the whole world, with the faithful, and with all persons of good will, to entrust into the hands of our Holy Mother the whole human race, sorely tried by this period of pandemic.” At the conclusion of the ceremony, the Holy Father blessed special Rosaries which will be sent to the shrines taking part.

All the faithful during the month of May unite in the recitation of the Holy Rosary to ask for the end of the pandemic and the resumption of social and work activities. Details on the Vatican website [here](#).

## Diocesan Environmental Policy

Bishop Mark has published our first Diocesan Environmental Policy, agreed by the Trustees in January. Issued in response to The Catholic Bishop’s Conference document “Call of Creation” the policy “promotes serious reflection on our relationship with God, with our neighbour and with the earth through the way we manage our resources as a Church and School community” and is firmly rooted in the principles set out in *Laudato Si* as well as *Fratelli Tutti*.

Links to full texts are below:

Bishop Mark’s [Pastoral Message](#) & [Environmental Policy](#) Document.

## Christian Aid Week 10th - 13th May (Monday-Sunday)



This year a Coffee Morning is planned at the end of the month when COVID-19 restrictions will have eased. More details in the next issue of Portico.

Donations can be made by cheque to Christian Aid, 35-41 Lower Marsh, London SE1 7RL

## Foodbank Update

Worryingly, Truro Foodbank reports: “Over Easter there was the worst ever demand for food for children during the holidays with over 2500 meals provided.” Our support is still badly needed.

Transformation Cornwall has issued an updated list of Foodbanks in Cornwall (April 2021) : find it [here](#)

## A Community Manifesto for Cornwall



Cornwall Independent Poverty Forum has produced a Community Manifesto to hand to our newly elected representatives after the May 6th elections. Their vision can be found [here](#) and there are links from that page to the many projects already happening in Cornwall, addressing food poverty, housing & homelessness, sustainable economy.

Why not write to your elected Council representatives and share this link with them?

## Pope Francis - A Man of his Word

DVD of Wim Wender’s documentary available to borrow email [theportico@icloud.com](mailto:theportico@icloud.com)

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Write to us at [theportico@icloud.com](mailto:theportico@icloud.com)