

Thought for the Week
12th April 2020
Easter Sunday

Today we celebrate Easter, marking the end of our Lenten journey. Unlike any other Easter in living memory, we as a community are unable to gather together in the usual way.

But all of us are bearing witness to the message of Easter in the wonderful acts of bravery, self-sacrifice, and love shown by our united response to the coronavirus crisis.

Speaking of the isolation imposed by social distancing measures, Pope Francis said:

“Thought and spirit can go far with the creativity of love.”

And that creativity has found expression in the many loving ways people have reached out to one another: by saying hello to a stranger out on a walk, by having a coffee and catch-up with neighbours across the garden hedge, by telephoning or connecting family and friends via social media, by dropping off food or medicines at the door of the elderly and vulnerable, by children painting rainbows of hope and sticking them on windows.

Using Zoom technology, Deacon Brian and Father Michael, supported by Krissie, have been able to lead us live over the internet in our preparations for Easter. We’ve prayed the Rosary and Stations of the Cross together and will be gather again today around our computers, or radios as we celebrate Easter Mass.

As a community and as a nation we have felt a wonderful camaraderie that those old enough, including our Queen, refer to as a ‘Blitz spirit.

In our First Reading today we hear that the amazing good deeds done by Jesus in Judaea were because ‘God had anointed him with the Holy Spirit and with power’. We too have those gifts from God, which will sustain us now and forever.

In the words of Pope Francis:

In the silence of our cities, the Easter Gospel will resound.

In the risen Jesus, life conquered death.

Hope is nourished by our Paschal Faith

Jim McGuigan