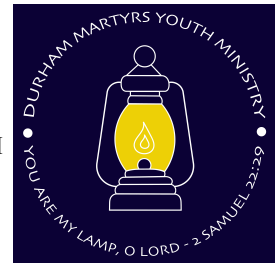




PARISH OF THE DURHAM MARTYRS
INCORPORATING THE CHURCHES OF ST BEDE, ST JOSEPH
AND OUR LADY OF MERCY AND ST GODRIC'S



Dear Brothers and Sisters,

As we continue through this challenging time we now, more than ever, need the hope that our faith provides. All around the world there are messages of good news and acts of kindness in all our communities, families and workplaces. Mixed with all this kindness and hope is, of course, the devastating loss of friends, neighbours and family members. We keep in our prayers all those who are grieving and ask God to give them comfort in the light of the Resurrection.

The parish is still ever present online with a live streamed Rosary at 10:30am, Holy Hour 2 - 3pm and Lectio Divina 7pm every weekday.

We are however, aware that many of our parishioners are not able to access these resources as they do not have access to the internet. Because of this we have put together this prayer pack to lead you through this Easter season. The pack includes a variety of resources, some produced by our parish specially, others have been borrowed from other sources. Below is a list of what is included in your Prayer pack:

- Liturgies at Home - Specially designed Mass Sheets so you can experience some of the wonder of the Mass at home. There are sheets for the next two Sundays. On these sheets you will find suggestions of things you may want to use in your liturgy for example a candle, a cross etc. You may wish to pray with the parish at the same time as Fr Colm is celebrating private Mass which will be at 10:30 on Sundays.

- A number of reflections by Fr Colm from Easter, transcribed from audio files available on our website.
- Meditation exercises and reflections kindly provided by parishioners
- A handwritten Easter Prayer Card
- Up to date Parish bulletins
- A variety of Puzzle Sheets - answers will be provided in the next pack in two weeks time.

I encourage you all to keep regular contact with your family, friends and fellow parishioners through phone conversations and messages. The new number for the parish office, during this time of isolation, is 07391 529827.

God Bless,

Fr Colm Hayden

Reflection from Fr. Colm on Palm Sunday

Audio posted to the Parish Website on Saturday 4th April 2020

Good morning everybody, this lovely morning I greet you from the presbytery here at St Joseph's in the parish of the Durham Martyrs and to all the parishioners and others I'd like to greet you especially on this Holy Week as we begin tomorrow with the Passion or today with the Passion of Jesus. Early enthusiasm has shifted quickly to the cross and a radical change has taken place - flowers to mud. From making popular headlines to the isolation of the cave, He was hemmed in by betrayal, by sin, pride and greed and there was no answer. "My God, My God" - no help, why? It happens us in a watered down way perhaps but for Him it was intense, and it was immediate. Darkness sets in, hope is lost, but *is it?*

For so many this is their story. Now, especially. A virus sweeps across our globe, across of our own very neighbourhoods. We too will have a lot of "whys" to ask. Why weren't we ready? Why can't a vaccine be found? Why can't we meet our loved ones? And these questions of why greet each other on a daily basis no more so than in the constant storm of tragic news that we get from the various news channels. But while hope was lost, it was quickly recovered in the Easter story, indeed not only recovered, it rose again.

But let's get back to that crowd. The crowd cheered initially, welcoming Him. That mass enthusiasm. We are so brave in a crowd, aren't we? As one man, a great philosopher said, *"The crowd, the great enemy of reason, virtue and religion, that numerous piece of monstrosity, which taken asunder seems men, and reasonable creatures of God; but confused together, make one great beast."* We see it often, but a crowd is not a community.

These past few weeks we have been deprived of our own community, especially our parish community and may be deprived of it into the foreseeable future. Added to this is the pain of not being able to meet the very members of our own families, confined to our own homes. Of course, we read, we garden, watch television. We can even compensate for our lack of exercise outside the home by home physical exertion as directed by fitness guru Joe Wicks or have all our best efforts at keeping fit and weight down as that other guru Jamie

Oliver teaches us how to bake comfort snacks and put the weight back on again. All diversions and *good* but none of this is people - flesh and blood - people. Our community and especially our Church community.

And that community is the familiar face that sits near me in church. Perhaps I don't even know his or her name, but I do miss them. I miss even their odd ways, their eccentricities, I miss too the warm smiles of greeting when we meet on a Sunday from others and surprise, surprise yes, I even miss those grumpy faces. I also miss the hymns, even the ones I don't like. I miss the choir, the music group, I also miss the coffee after Mass, those precious moments to catch up, the bit of gossip, the small talk and perhaps some occasion the deeper sharing of a particular worry or concern. I miss them all, deeply. And yes, I even miss the tedious sermons.

The Journalist Tim Stanley said on "Thought for the day" this week that recently how he always went to Mass with a very clear understanding that Mass was just a matter between him and God and on hearing that his parish Mass was suspended he looked forward to the many websites he could access Mass from home. However, after the first such screened Mass things changed. Yes, the priest was very good, but something was missing. He simply missed the people, the community.

We all miss each other and so we should. Isn't it a testimony to the strength of that same community, warts and all, that we miss it? And so, we enter this Holy of Holy weeks never imagining that we'd *ever* be doing so confined or be so confined in our homes. The one time of the year when we re-enact the why we still come together as Church for so many years, so many centuries is taken away from us.

Holy Thursday and the instruction on the Eucharist, Good Friday the meaning of suffering and then the finale, the great Easter Vigil and the Mass of the risen Lord on Easter Sunday it will all be different this year. *Different that's all* because we as a risen people can use and *will* use this week as a real opportunity for us to join together as community. Though physically separated we are together. United only as a community rooted in faith can be, in the power of Christ. God bless each one of you and we continue to pray for each other.

Reflection from Fr. Colm on Monday of Holy Week

Audio posted to the Parish Website on Monday 6th April 2020

Good morning everybody. I've been asked to put a few more thoughts on record particularly over these coming few days and so let's just reflect and pray for each other as we enter into this holy, Holy Week. I hope the weekend has gone well for you and that whatever Mass you tuned into was relevant and meaningful to you.

For myself I said Mass, just me and Ellie the dog. I blessed some palms and I read the readings in isolation. Sadly, the virus continues to blight us of human company. A car passed me on my morning walk today and all three occupants had face masks reminding me of a Bonnie Clyde movie, but it looked certainly very eerie.

However, these are the times we're living in now - not yesterday, not tomorrow. Jesus is clear about the importance of today in the Gospel of today. He says "This day, this message is being fulfilled in your hearing"

So where are you today?

I am continuing to receive calls and messages from friends, parishioners, family. Some of the messages unfortunately contain news of cancellations be it of holidays, which in the context of what we're living now aren't that important, however there are weddings being cancelled, indeed we know ourselves about cancelled pilgrimages. A wedding indeed that I was to attend the week after Easter has been cancelled and the bride has said "We'll do it again, we'll do it again, we'll get married." Such optimism is great to hear, such a positive spirit. And that same spirit is needed now, this now, this day.

Sadly, this weekend saw the passing of one of the great songwriters of modern times Bill Withers. One of his enduring ballads was called "Ain't no sunshine when you're gone". The song is an anthem to loneliness and heartbreak all of which are a part of us today perhaps more than has been for some time. For many it's our now, that heartbreak, that loneliness.

However, as I speak the sun is shining outside, though for many it doesn't. Let us pray that both the sunshine within our own faith, within our own hearts will overcome the darkness of this present time we're going through. God bless you.

Reflection from Fr. Colm on Tuesday of Holy Week

Audio posted to the Parish Website on Tuesday 6th April 2020

Good morning everybody. On this sunny morning we gather again, perhaps in the confinement of our own homes unable to access the glories of that sunshine. Nonetheless let us focus on the faith in which we are invited to share in this particular week and today especially Judas is taking centre stage in the Gospel of St John.

That great, great chapter 13. In that Gospel in which we focus on the institution of the Eucharist, the washing of the feet, the betrayals not just of Judas but the prophecy of Peter's betrayal by Jesus however today it's Judas that takes centre stage.

When I was a priest in Dublin many years ago in order to get some exercise at night after a heavy day of confessions or counselling whatever it might be I used to stroll around Trinity College in Dublin and very often I'd meet a lonely figure. That figure turned out to be the Head of English in Trinity College and was the poet Brendan Kennelly.

I mention Brendan Kennelly because Brendan Kennelly wrote a book of poetry, well it was just one poem, it was *400 pages* long and the book was simply called "The Book of Judas." Kennelly asks in the poem how we today perhaps might be scapegoating Judas and perhaps we don't see the relevance of Judas in our own lives and our contribution to the betrayal of humanity and to each other.

One of Kennelly's great fans was the U2 frontman Bono and Bono particularly commented on a line that caused huge controversy on the publication of this bestselling book and that line was *"If you want to serve the age, betray it."*

For Bono this was exposing the conceits, the foibles, the secrets of our age and facing harsher truths. And that's the hard challenge for each one of us isn't it? Facing those harsher truths. But unfortunately, as Christians, as Catholics, we're invited and asked to do that, particularly over the season of Lent and we will see so much of that in the readings this week. Whether we agree or not with either Kennelly

or Bono the reality is that Judas is not just someone who is that eternal scapegoat and outcast but as I say he is that uncomfortable presence in all of us.

This is a time of real uncertainty when even our Prime Minister is in Intensive Care Unit with COVID-19 and we pray for him. Perhaps we might too ask ourselves some searching questions as to how humanity might well have betrayed its responsibilities to this wonderful earth of ours. Eucharistic prayer tells us and invites us *"You formed us in your own image and entrusted the whole world to our care."* So, let us pray again for each other on this day and pray for this world of ours that indeed we will be more responsible and caring for it in all its aspects.

Reflection from Fr. Colm on Wednesday of Holy Week

Audio posted to the Parish Website on Wednesday 8th April 2020

Good morning everybody on this lovely morning. Today is Wednesday of Holy Week and also known as, traditionally, as "Spy Wednesday" a reminder again of the role of Judas. It is also the day after our first parish council which was held via zoom. Thank God for Social Media.

Also, this day each year we normally have a parish Mini Triduum. We don't call it so to trivialise the importance of the day or indeed the week it's so called because we gather as a parish community all the housebound and elderly for a service which incorporates the three days of the Holy Triduum - Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Sunday. And they are brought here by carers, family members, members of the St Vincent De Paul and friends. The service lasts a little over an hour and they receive the anointing of the holy oils, the kissing of the cross, the holy cross, the washing of hands which substitutes for the washing of the feet obviously and finally Holy Communion. After the service we gather for tea and sandwiches in the parish room we are also joined by altar servers who love being a part of the entire ceremony. The links between young and old are so very evidently strong and very, very warm. It is our way of honouring these senior members of parish and society. Sadly, this service will not happen, and I most certainly will miss it this year because of COVID-19.

The former Supreme Court Judge and historian Jonathan Sumption wrote in last Sunday's Sunday Times a criticism of the present lockdown and its effects on mental health and the economy. Yes, while I do agree, or disagree with some of his main criticisms I did find some of his observations very good particularly on our attitude towards sickness, the elderly and death. He wrote " *We have also acquired today an irrational horror of death. Today death is the great obscenity, inevitable but somehow unnatural. In the midst of life our ancestors lived life with death as an ever-present fact that they understood and accommodated. They experienced the death of friends and family, young and old, generally at home. Today it is hidden away in hospitals and care homes, out of sight and out of mind, unmentionable until it strikes.*" Sadly COVID-19 has made us painfully aware of the reality of death.

Indeed, at yesterday's daily press conference, the foreign secretary was asked how come the Prime Minister and two of his key advisors

should even succumb to the virus. the answer was brief "And why not?" he said, "None of us are immune." Indeed, none of us are immune from suffering, from death.

Holy Week gently reminds us of this fact but also that there is something else. There is healing, there is goodness and there is above all else hope. Have a lovely day now.

Reflection from Fr. Colm on Maundy Thursday

Audio posted to the Parish Website on Thursday 9th April 2020

Good morning all the cloudy sky greets us this morning after the hottest day of the year yesterday. I do hope you were able to avail of yesterday's sunshine wherever you are and in whatever constricted surroundings you may find yourself and many of you do, I know.

Steven Pinker is a world bestselling author on life and ideas. He was recently interviewed to give his take on our present predicament. When asked how life would change after it was over, he nonchalantly smiled and replied *"Well it won't. People will continue on as before. Life will continue on as before,"* he said.

Now this left me very uneasy because I thought is, he actually, is he really accurate? Will life and people be the same? And who I am to disagree with such a highly lauded voice. Questions. So unsettled was I that it made me dig deeper and reflect deeper. Not a bad thing you will say. And my conclusion was that he is wrong. I know life will not be the same. Questions will be asked. Accountability will be sought. But from the immediate surroundings of my environment life has taken on a very different perspectives alone. I'm talking here about the wonderful acts of kindness and decency coming from so many and indeed at times from quarters that we may not have expected them. Those often small hidden expressions of decency that having nothing to do with the promised billions of the Bill Gates and the Mark Zuckerbergs of this world or the promised millions from the Lady Gaga inspired musical jamboree. Good as these are in themselves, I'm talking here about the continued chain of support that I see in the parish and beyond. The delivered meals, the dropped off newsletters, the endless phone calls, texting, the emails just to check out that we care for you. And this to me is why life will never be the same again.

Even at a broader level will we not reflect more on the neglected heroes of our health service, the low paid workers who have shone a light of decency on a thoroughly awful predicament that so many of us find ourselves. That light of goodness. That light of service.

Today is Maundy or Holy Thursday. At 11 am this morning the priests of the diocese would ordinarily assemble in the cathedral in Newcastle to reaffirm their ministerial calling and be affirmed also in that same

calling. The Holy oils will be blessed, all marvellous liturgical and sacramental expressions of the role of service that we each are all called to.

Tonight, the Mass of the Lord's Supper will remind us that one single act that is the truest expression of our Christian and our Eucharistic calling is service. I will be with you in spirit tonight supported by your many ,many acts of service and kindness over these weeks and I would ask you to please join me especially between 8 and 9 if you can for that great hour of quiet before the reposed Sacrament and that will be on Facebook for those who can access that, ok. So, God bless you again today and I'll speak to you again tomorrow, Good Friday.

Reflection from Fr. Colm on Good Friday

Audio posted to the Parish Website on Friday 10th April 2020

Good morning everybody. Good Friday, a Good Friday like no other I think you'll agree. Usually very quiet but this Good Friday will be much quieter than most. Thomas Merton, the Trappist monk wrote one of his earliest books on his sense of inadequacy at watching a world go by where so much was needed to be addressed by way of care and healing but he himself found no avenue. He did ultimately discover that through prayer and his hopes and the very isolation of his own monastery in Kentucky. His time alone was a time where he felt more connected to the world than ever before, a world which he had up to then ignored. He wrote with clarity on ecumenism, the environment, justice and peace and his own catholic tradition with a clarity and resonance that is still very popular to this today.

And so, where we are and lest we feel inadequate in the isolation that we are experiencing. Listen to his words. *"A woodpecker with a cry as sharp as a dagger terrifies the lesser birds, while he himself is benevolent and harmless. The beautiful kingfisher in dazzling flight rattles like a bird of ill omen. So, we fear beauty."* And this is precisely is what Good Friday is about. The fear of beauty. It seems the authorities were terrified of the beauty that stood before them, their own egos, self-ambition all played out in this drama. Or how perhaps do we participate in this drama in our own lives? Are we guilty of being bystander's inclusion of what goes on in society? perhaps this time of isolation and lockdown is a real opportunity to be more than just bystanders. As parish we are connecting with each other certainly in a way that has been very different and very, very wonderful to see.

One of the great American hymns associated with this day is the African American spiritual "Where you there when they crucified my Lord?" written by a slave in 1889 it was accepted into main stream church singing not until 1940 by the American Episcopal hymnal. It took time. With its haunting refrain it asks the same question of each one of us as bystanders. *"Oh, sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble, where you there when they crucified my Lord?"* Composed in poverty, composed in slavery, it's a reminder to us that that sense of poverty at all times is a real connection between us and Christ. Let us do that on this day when we can't be with each other as community physically but let us connect with each other in prayer. God bless.

Reflection from Fr. Colm on Holy Saturday

Audio posted to the Parish Website on Saturday 11th April 2020

Good morning everybody. How was your Good Friday? For me it began with a very short video conference then a phone call with the news from Dublin that Kay had died. Kay was a lifelong friend, wonderful, wonderful person. Highlight of her life was visiting Durham here for my own 25th anniversary of priesthood. She was more than a character in my neighbourhood, she was a personification of kindness and decency in commitment to faith, commitment to parish. Also, her commitment to helping others was a 24/7 task. Nurse by profession, back damage shortened her career, she spent the rest of her life caring for the sick. my parents were fortunate to be recipients of that kindness and regular visits by Kay were often accompanied by laughter, shared stories, gossip and yes, perhaps a glass of Jameson. Kay never married and that was why the circumstances of her own demise yesterday seemed more sad. She was found dead in her home yesterday morning. How she will be missed. That virus, I suspect, took her. At this stage I dare not ask but it certainly makes everything more immediate and personal. Good Friday was perhaps in the context of Kay's faith an appropriate day for her to go - if ever a day is appropriate to go. She was part of the old school, the cross. Central to our faith.

I'm lifted however in the afternoon by a phone call not one of your always look on the bright side of life calls, no, a phone call from a wonderful person initially apologising for intruding on my time but I could sense that feeling of emptiness was there in the breathing. It was real. And then those words, "Father, do please forgive my intrusion." Imagine, in lockdown, in isolation intruding on my space, on my time. As we spoke it became clear that wearisome atmosphere of coronavirus was just too much for the caller, not helped by constant media bombardment of the census of negative news, sad, tragic news. Self-isolating of course had intensified this. However, that word emptiness came back again. Why does this word emptiness usually need an accompanying apology?

Irony of ironies here we are on Holy Saturday invited by the Church to experience that emptiness of a Christian reality. That emptiness which means absence of hope and surely emptiness means what it implies, being empty. We are reminded of our ever-growing difficulty in living with emptiness by filling those spaces all the time with addictions of all sorts. I'm not talking just about substance abuse here. Eastern

Traditions are challenging us within the Christian Tradition more than ever because of their embracing of emptiness, however, thank God for the glory of the Church's liturgy. Holy Thursday we strip the altar, we empty the Tabernacle, *and yet*, yes, we soften that emptiness by having a side altar of repose. The Lord is gone but not quite. Emptiness, too much.

The writer and educationalist George Steiner said, "*Our weeks are a kind of prolonged Holy Saturday.*" Steiner was Jewish. As Christians we are invited to enter the darkness, the emptiness of the night. How else are we to experience the light? The Easter candle, the wonderful Exsultet, shouting, screaming "*Darkness is now vanished, the tomb is empty!*" Is not our present isolation and lockdown a unique form of emptiness and leaves open the possibility of a unique Easter experience? Let's pray that it will be. God bless.

Reflection from Fr. Colm on Easter Sunday

Audio posted to the Parish Website on Sunday 12th April 2020

Good morning everybody. Happy Easter to you. Another lovely morning. Last night I said Mass at around 9 o'clock. Mass of the Easter Vigil. Lit the Paschal candle, listened to the Exsultet on a recording, read the readings - not all of them - just the first, the reading for St Paul and the Gospel and there's a psalm I listened to "In Christ Alone" what a beautiful hymn it is.

I reflected on the distance that was a part of our present society today and I suppose the tragic distance between family and their loved ones who are either sick in hospital with the virus or indeed have passed away. One of the great tragedies of this entire plague that has fallen upon us is that inaccessibility of family and friends that are loved ones. Very poignant watching a son being interviewed last night on television and thought he spoke beautifully and very well about his father's death and there's beauty in such things. There is beauty in what we're celebrating in this wonderful day of Easter. I always feel we own this unlike Christmas; this is ours, this as Christians, this belongs to us.

However that distance was very much a part of last night, and I suppose I could identify with the distance that many relatives do feel too today and distance is something I'm sure the early Church and indeed Mary the mother of Jesus, Mary Magdalene, the early followers who remained faithful to Him till the end that sense of distance must have been so painful and difficult for them. To see this whole act unfolding before their very eyes and they couldn't do anything, they couldn't go near Him, they couldn't access Him. And yet this is the Easter story, and this is what it's all about, the stone rolled away. That stone simply was symbolising the heart in which all of us have that anguish of uncertainty and grief and loss rolled away. Healing, forgiveness, all these wonderful words take on a real powerful meaning in the context of the stone being rolled away.

This morning I woke and listened to Something Understood and Rowan Williams, such an eloquent speaker, such an eloquent thinker and such a profound person did speak about the real gifts of Easter where everything is transformed, everything is changed, *everything*. Nothing is impossible. Do listen to it if you have a moment, it'll fill in a half an hour for you today, it's very worthwhile.

And I did think of course also of that distance and that "From a distance" that beautiful song of Nancy Griffiths some years ago. God is watching us; God is with us. And that's what today is about so we'll pray that for each other this day that we will support from a distance each other in prayer and love. God bless you all.

Monday of Holy Week,

by David Adam

How deep is the love of God for you. His love is often described as 'steadfast love' for it never wavers. No matter how often you have ignored him or betrayed him, God still loves you. He seeks to enfold you in his love, to renew you through his love. Come now, do not delay, and rest in the love of God. Know that God wants a living relationship with you. Realise in Christ Jesus how costly love is to God: God sacrifices himself for you; he lays down his life for you. Abiding in this love, let your worries and fears disappear: know that you are his beloved.

O Saviour of the world, who redeemed us by your cross and precious blood, save us, and help us we humbly beseech you, O Lord.

Rest in the love of God and let his love surround you. Rejoice in his steadfast love: you do not need anything for God already loves you.

You may like to look at an image of Christ on the cross or a crucifix as you offer your love to him.

On the holy cross I see, Jesus' hands nailed fast for me.

On the holy cross I see, Jesus' feet nailed fast for me.

Loving Jesus, let me be still and quiet close to thee;

learning all thy love for me, giving all my love to thee.

The Last Supper by Sieger Köder

On the night before he died, Jesus had a last
supper with his friends
and showed them how to remember forever
what his mission was all about, what they were
supposed to do.

He got a basin of water and got down on his
knees
to wash their feet, one at a time. This was just
not done.

There were servants in those days to wash the
dusty feet of guests.

Peter spoke up, unhappy about this, but Jesus
told him

this was the way: serve each other in humility,
serve the poor.

This is what he meant when he gave us his
body.

Lord, help us to grow in the ministry of service,
to understand that the purpose of life is not to
gain power,
possession and prestige, but simply to serve.



Good Friday

Because what he said and did was such a threat to the ways
of the religious authorities, they made sure he was condemned and flogged and taken
out and nailed up onto a cross.

The disciples could not cope with the violence, the crowds,
only his mother and the women stayed, and the beloved disciple.

Roman crucifixion was a humiliation, a public mockery.
Jesus became human and went to the very depths of being human,
abandoned by God, tortured, and made a victim.

He did not fight back; he absorbed the violence of the human race.
And from his high place on the cross, outside the walls of the city, forgave us.

Lord, we do not know what we are doing,

help us to forgive and be reconciled,

never again to make victims.

Amen.

Resurrection

The rock split and a shaft of light shone into the darkness.

Only the angels witnessed the resurrection,

The power of the Spirit transforming Jesus into glory.

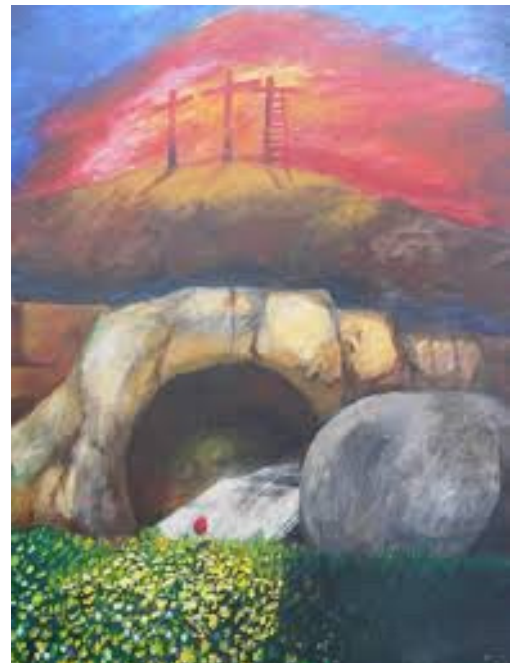
Mary Magdalen was the first to know, arriving early to find
The empty tomb, called to a new life when she heard her name
Spoken by the risen Lord, whose very breath was peace.

There was no revenge, now he was risen,
No lessons in power for those men who struck him
And flogged him. That's what we would do, perhaps...

He simply forgave, and taught his friends the meaning of everything
He had said and done, and told them to wait
Until the Spirit powered them up to go out and tell the world:

*Christ is Risen, his light spreads over all
the earth.*

*He has forgiven every one of our sins
and shown us the path to God.
Sing alleluia, praise the Lord*



Reflection from Fr. Colm on Easter Tuesday

Audio posted to the Parish Website on Tuesday 14th April 2020

Good morning everybody. I hope your Easter went well. As I write two finches are busy working away building a home for their future family under my windowsill here. Sometimes I catch sight of them with their building materials, in and out. I know the construction of their home will be safe and solid. These are the small things that ordinarily I would have missed just too busy, too preoccupied. now it's an exercise, not an exercise in meditation or mindfulness it's my reality whether I like it or not; and I do like it. I like to see the ordinary and thank God I can do this. I cannot see the construction that these feathered beauts are making but I do know what's happening. The small signs of hope, to be cherished.

However, I open my newspaper and find on the front page a most poignant of pictures two nurses in the city of Leganés in Spain utterly devastated on the death of one of their colleagues due to coronavirus. Gowned, hair nets and masks, they seem to make the photo more real somehow. Their faces etched in grief, I'm deeply and profoundly touched. They so inspire me. I don't know them. Another moment of inspiration in these sad and tragic days.

Mary leaves the empty tomb not with this devastation that should accompany a visit to a tomb, but she rushes away with hope, with new energy, with a love that refuses to give in. Two finches, two nurses, two central figures in the Gospel for today all lifting my spirits in these difficult times. Such is the message of Easter.

Reflection from Fr. Colm on Easter Wednesday

Audio posted to the Parish Website on Wednesday 15th April 2020

Good morning everybody. Wednesday of Easter week and I had a phone call this morning and the caller was, it was to do with church issues, and the caller then just said to me "You know Father, I feel flat." And I thought well I can identify that, and I know why the flatness is there with many of us at this point in time. We've just come through a season of Lent, of kind of supposed deprivation, isolation to some degree, and we could emphasise, we could understand it within the context of where we are now but there's a certain flatness I think because we haven't been given the opportunity to celebrate as community, the celebration of Easter, the rejoicing of the risen Lord.

And turning on the radio this morning listening to the usual litany of woes from around the world and they are tragic woes, horrible stories but you just feel "Oh my Lord, how much more can we experience, how much more can our senses actually absorb this?" Switching from news to Radio 3 to some classical music. Unfortunately, the music being played didn't exactly lift the spirits either.

It was then that I read an article by, it was just simply an account, by a junior doctor who had to go on leave because she herself had come down with coronavirus and it was a wonderful, wonderful article and it really lifts the spirits, certainly did for me. And at home she was going through this whole idea of the sense of guilt and shame she felt not being in with her colleagues to help out.

And she said: "Most of the time I just long to be in the hospital because it is the best distraction. As a result, my colleagues have become my family. The doctors, nurses, administration staff, porters, cleaners. They are brave and they are brilliant, and they inspire me to be the same. Beyond the fear, exhaustion, uncertainty, loneliness and tears we somehow still manage to smile every day. We smile mainly with our eyes because covering our faces with masks has become the new norm. The pandemic has united us in ways that I can't describe. It is hard to find words strong enough to describe the pride I feel to be a part of the relentlessly compassionate organisation that is the NHS. To anyone who has thanked us or named us as heroes ... please know that to me it is both a privilege and an honour."

And so those words echo in my mind and heart today as I also read the Gospel of the wonderful Eucharistic Gospel of coming together ironically breaking bread together -Emmaus. And I hear the words "*And their eyes were opened, and they recognised him; but he had vanished from their sight.*" Our eyes are open in the small and big ways, yes Jesus vanishes from our sight to be rediscovered elsewhere. So, let's journey, continue our journey of rediscovery of where He is in our lives today.

Our Father
A reflection by Raymond Friel

Our Father
*Not a frightening God
But the loving father of all humanity*

Who art in heaven
*Not far away but very close
Heaven is where we find the presence of God*

Hallowed be thy name
*We place your name above all other names
We praise you, we honour you, we thank you*

Thy kingdom come
*May the world look like the kind of place
God wants it to be, just and compassionate*

Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven
*We all want different things
But it's what you want for us and the whole world that matters*

Give us this day our daily bread
*Give everybody what they need to live, physically and spiritually,
Give us the grace to help them*

And forgive our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us
*If we don't forgive other people
We won't be able to feel forgiven*

And lead us not into temptation
*Protect us from the glamorous path
The world sets before us*

But deliver us from evil
*Spare us from the terrible things human beings are capable of and help us to stand
against evil in our world when we can*

Amen.
Let all this be so.

A letter of Encouragement

(Colossians 1:1-14)

Psalm 150

Alleluia!

Praise God in his Sanctuary;
Praise him, in the vault of heaven.

Praise him, for his mighty deeds;
praise him, for his own greatness.

Praise him with trumpet blast;
Praise him with lyre and harp.

Praise him, with dance and tambourines;
Praise him with pipe and strings.

Praise him with clashing cymbals;
Praise him with clanging cymbals.

Let everything that breathes, sing praise to Yahweh.

Alleluia!

A Letter in the post!

Dear Neighbour,

Just a quick note to say a big 'thank you' for helping me out the other day. It was really appreciated. I am not that great at asking for help, or even admitting that I need it. I am so grateful to you for your act of kindness; it made a big difference.

Thanks again!

Reflection

Think of how it feels when someone does a simple act of kindness for you, the huge difference a phone call, receiving a text or an email, just to ask how you are doing or to tell them that you are thinking of them.

Even from a distance we can make a huge difference to those around us, never underestimate the warmth, strength and comfort that brings.

Prayer

Our loving, Heavenly Father,

Thank you for family, friends and neighbours.

Thank you for the joy of receiving a letter, phone call, text or email of greeting, encouragement or news.

Be with us now; fill us afresh with your Holy Spirit; and guide our thoughts and responses at this time of uncertainty,

In Jesus' name, Amen

DEEPER ENCOUNTERS

Most importantly we are not alone. This time can give us with an opportunity for greater clarity about the transitions in the life of Christ. He listened deeply in the desert as he prepared for his public ministry; he withdrew to mountain tops and seashores from time to time; he lingered in the Garden of Olives when he realised that the officials were closing in on him.

Deep listening in this time can open us to deeper encounters with the Sacred.

We could make this our prayer at this time:

May all that is not love fall away. May all that is not truth fall away. May all that is not fullness fall away. May all that is not richness fall away. May all that is not peaceful fall away. May this time bring us closer to each other and bring us closer to your all-embracing love. Through and with the love of Christ, Amen.

TRUST IN THE SLOW WORK OF GOD

Teilhard de Chardin

Trust in the slow work of God. We are, quite naturally, impatient with everything to reach the end without delay. We should like to skip the intermediate stages. We are impatient of being on the way to something unknown, something new. And yet it is the law of all progress that it is made by passing through some stages of instability and that it may take a very long time.

And so I think it is with you. Your ideas mature gradually. Let them grow, let them shape themselves without due haste. Don't try to force them on, as though you could be today what time, that is to say, grace and circumstances acting on your own good will, will make you tomorrow. Only God could say what this new spirit gradually forming within you will be. Give our Lord the benefit of believing that God's hand is leading you and accept the anxiety of feeling yourself in suspense and incomplete.

The Starfish Story: one step towards changing the world

You may have heard this one, but I find that it doesn't hurt to be reminded of it every once in a while.

Once upon a time, there was an old man who used to go to the ocean to do his writing. He had a habit of walking on the beach every morning before he began his work. Early one morning, he was walking along the shore after a big storm had passed and found the vast beach littered with starfish as far as the eye could see, stretching in both directions.

Off in the distance, the old man noticed a small boy approaching. As the boy walked, he paused every so often and as he grew closer, the man could see that he was occasionally bending down to pick up an object and throw it into the sea. The boy came closer still and the man called out, "Good morning! May I ask what it is that you are doing?"

The young boy paused, looked up, and replied "Throwing starfish into the ocean. The tide has washed them up onto the beach and they can't return to the sea by themselves," the youth replied. "When the sun gets high, they will die, unless I throw them back into the water."

The old man replied, "But there must be tens of thousands of starfish on this beach. I'm afraid you won't really be able to make much of a difference." The boy bent down, picked up yet another starfish and threw it as far as he could into the ocean. Then he turned, smiled and said, "It made a difference to that one!"

Adapted from The Star Thrower, by Loren Eiseley (1907 – 1977)

We all have the opportunity to help create positive change, but if you're like me, you sometimes find yourself thinking, "I'm already really busy, and how much of a difference can I really make?" I think this is especially true when we're talking about addressing massive social problems, but it pops up all of the time in our everyday lives, as well. So, when I catch myself thinking that way, it helps to remember this story. You might not be able to change the entire world, but at least you can change a small part of it, for someone. They say that one of the most common reasons we delay is because we see the challenge before us as overwhelming, and that a good way to counter that is to break the big challenge down into smaller pieces and then take those one at a time, like one starfish at a time. And to that one starfish, it can make a world of difference. "A single, ordinary person still can make a difference, and single, ordinary people are doing precisely that every day."

GOD IS LOVE

By Tim Muldoon

God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgement, because as he is, so are we in this world. There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. We love because he first loved us. Those who say, "I love God," and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love their brothers or sisters whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

1 John 4:16-21

"Perfect love casts out fear," writes the author of this letter. He is right: those on a mission accept that there will be highs and lows, moments of difficulty. What is important when one is on a mission is to keep going until it is completed, mindful that God's grace sustains us along the way.

Choosing to follow Jesus does not guarantee happiness in the way people often imagine it. Rather, it guarantees love, both the knowledge that God loves us deeply and unconditionally, and assurance that our living in love will lead us outward to share it with others. The words of Father Zosima in Dostoyevsky's

'The Brothers Karamazov are true:

Strive to love your neighbour actively and indefatigably.

In as far as you advance in love you will grow surer of the reality of God and of the immortality of your soul.

If you attain to perfect self-forgetfulness in love of your neighbour, then you will believe without doubt, and no doubt can possibly enter your soul.

This has been tried. This is certain.

Happiness often will be a by-product of love; the way good feelings often are a by-product of exercise. But we do not exercise only for good feelings, and we do not follow Jesus only for happiness. We set our eyes on the goal and pursue it with great resolve; for in the end, love is the only good worth seeking in this life or the next.

Prayer

*Take, Lord, and receive all my liberty,
My memory, my understanding, and my entire will,
All I have call my own.*

You have given all to me.

To you, Lord, I return it.

Everything is yours; do with it what you will.

Give me only your love and grace,

That is enough for me.

St. Ignatius of Loyola

Meditation

Let us call on God through the gift of meditation in these times of isolation, we can connect with God, with ourselves and with our family and friends. If we stop thinking of the past and the future and learn to live in the present moment, as it is now, difficult as it is, then perhaps we can find inner peace, both spiritually and mentally to help us in these uncertain times.

Perhaps God is calling us to re-connect with our current lives and as we find ourselves in these extreme times, may we unearth some comfort from somewhere. I am hoping that meditating either alone or with family members will help us all through.

God often seems absent to us because we are not in the here and now.

I found that meditating with children in school and with my own children at home both inspiring and encouraging. Children are natural contemplatives, if we encourage them to be still and open their hearts to the divine love within, they will have a gift to last for the rest of their lives.

We too can open our hearts to the gift of meditation. What better time can we be open to this as we find ourselves here and now in this unprecedented time.

A small boy summed up meditation when he said,
“Meditation is when I can just be me.”

Matthew 19:13-14

Little children were brought to Jesus for him to place his hands on them and pray for them. But the disciples rebuked those who brought them. Jesus said, “Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these.”

Be still and know that I am God. Ps 46:10

How do we Meditate

- Sit upright with feet flat on the floor or sit crossed legged on carpet (posture is important)
- Palms facing upwards either outstretched on your knees, or just resting gently on you lap, try to relax
- Say the mantra in your head - **Ma-ra-na-tha** - as you breathe in
- Say the mantra in your head - **Ma-ra-na-tha** - as you breathe out
- If any other thoughts come into your head try to return to your mantra, thinking of nothing else
- Repeat the mantra over and over in your head
- Close your eyes to help you to focus

Prayer

Lord God, your spirit of wisdom fills the earth and teach us in your ways. Look upon us in this time of isolation. Help us to strive to share this time with gentle patience. Grant that we may find times of silence and contemplation, with Jesus Christ, who is the way, the truth and the life, forever and ever. Amen

Silence

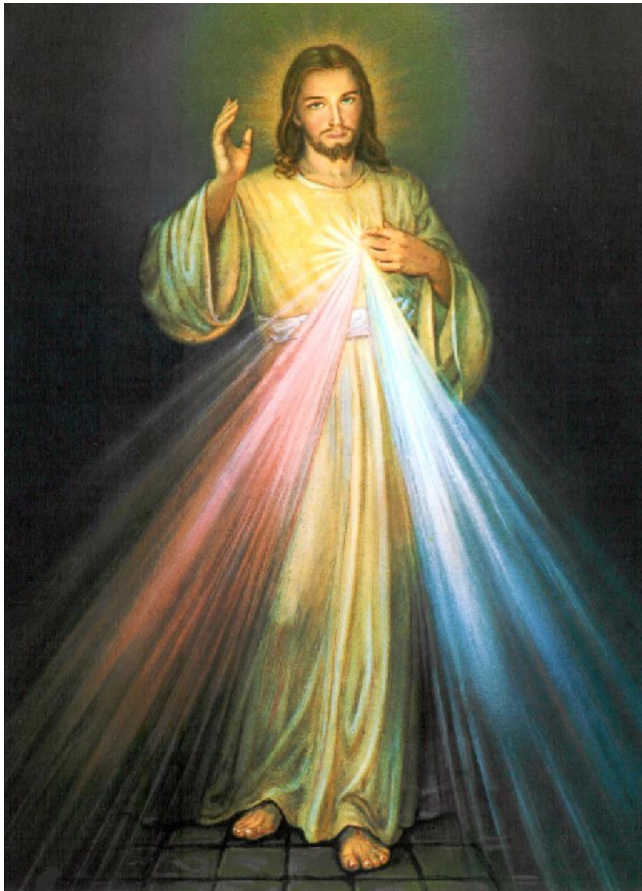
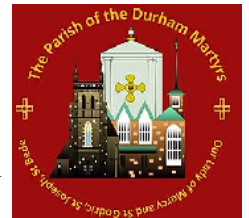
Our world is full of continual distraction,
Our attention is demanded by a thousand pop ups, message, photos, videos, alerts,
We no longer hear the sound of silence, where God can be found.
Let us enter into silence today, set aside our anxieties, the to do list, the conversations that run in our head, set aside our ego and its concerns about what to say, how we have to look, who has offended us, who likes us.
Let go of all of that and just sit in silence, with the loving presence of the Holy Spirit who dwells in us, if we could but listen and be attentive to his presence.

*Loving God,
help us to set aside, for a few moments,
the targets, the action plans, even better ifs, and just be ourselves,
with you.
When distractions and thoughts rise up, which they will,
help us with one sacred word Ma-ra-na-tha
To come back to your intention, to be with you,
to empty ourselves of the stuff that does not matter.
Help us simply to be still and know that you are God,
help us to be still,
To be.*

Divine Mercy Sunday
2nd Sunday of Easter - 19th April 2020



Holy Week
resources
produced by
the Durham
Martyrs Parish



ITEMS YOU MAY WANT TO USE FOR YOUR LITURGY:
CANDLE, BIBLE

Light a candle and begin with this prayer.
*Lord, I gather here today with my parish
community in Your sight. Guide our steps
as we journey through this time of Easter
celebration. Amen.*

Liturgy of the Word

FIRST READING - ACTS 2:42-47

*The faithful all lived together and
owned everything in common.*

PSALM 117 -

GIVE THANKS TO THE LORD FOR HE IS GOOD, FOR HIS LOVE HAS NO END.

*Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, for his
love has no end.*

Let the sons of Israel say: 'His love has no end.'

Let the sons of Aaron say: 'His love has no end.'

*Let those who fear the Lord say 'His Love has
no end.'*

*The stone which the builders rejected has
become the corner stone.*

*This is the work of the Lord a marvel in
our eyes.*

*This day was made by the Lord;
we rejoice and are glad.*

O Lord, grant us salvation;

O Lord, grant success.

Blessed with in the name of the Lord is he who comes.

We bless you from the house of the Lord; the Lord God is our light.

SECOND READING - 1 PET 1:3-9

*In his great mercy he has given us a new birth as his sons by raising Jesus from the
dead.*

Alleluia
Alleluia
Alleluia

GOSPEL - JOHN 20:19-31

*Then Jesus told him, "Because you have seen me,
you have believed; blessed are those who have
not seen and yet have believed."*

**Spend some time in silence, reflecting on
the Word of God.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION - YOU MAY ADD YOUR OWN PRAYER INTENTIONS HERE

Pray for our Holy Father Pope Francis and all our Clergy and religious.

Pray for our doctors, nurses and all who are working to help and heal.

Pray for those in government, public office and those looking after the welfare of others.

Pray for all those who are suffering in mind or body.

Pray for all who are lonely, isolated and in need.

Pray for those who have died and are no longer with us.

Pray to our Blessed Mother, Mary, to intercede for us. Hail Mary...

*Even though we
are unable to
receive Jesus in
the sacrament of
the Eucharist we
can make an act
of Spiritual
Communion by
saying the
following prayer*

Liturgy of the Eucharist

MY JESUS,
I BELIEVE THAT YOU ARE PRESENT IN THE MOST HOLY SACRAMENT.

I LOVE YOU ABOVE ALL THINGS,
AND I DESIRE TO RECEIVE YOU INTO MY SOUL.

SINCE I CANNOT AT THIS MOMENT RECEIVE YOU SACRAMENTALLY,
COME AT LEAST SPIRITUALLY INTO MY HEART.

I EMBRACE YOU AS IF YOU WERE ALREADY THERE
AND UNITE MYSELF WHOLLY TO YOU.

NEVER PERMIT ME TO BE SEPARATED FROM YOU. AMEN.

Join with the parish community by singing the following hymn

*Soul of my saviour
Sanctify my breast.
Body of Christ,
Be thou my saving guest.
Blood of my saviour,
Bathe me in thy tide.
Wash me with waters,
Flowing from his side.*

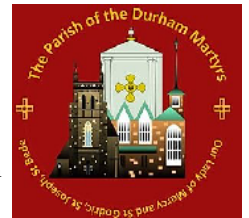
*Strength and protection
May thy passion be.
Oh blessed Jesus
Hear and answer me.
Deep in thy wounds Lord,
Hide and shelter me
So shall I never,
Never part from thee.*

*Guard and defend me
From the foe malign.
In death's dread moments
Make me only thine.
Call me and bid me
Come to thee on high.
Where I may praise thee
With thy saints for aye.*

3rd Sunday of Easter 26th April 2020



Holy Week
resources
produced by
the Durham
Martyrs Parish



ITEMS YOU MAY WANT TO USE FOR YOUR
LITURGY: CANDLE, BIBLE

Light a candle and begin with
this prayer.
*Lord, I gather here today with
my parish community in Your
sight. Guide our steps as we
journey through this time of
Easter celebration. Amen.*

Liturgy of the Word

FIRST READING - ACTS 2:14, 22-33

It was impossible for him to be held in the power of Hades.

PSALM 117 -

GIVE THANKS TO THE LORD FOR HE IS GOOD, FOR HIS LOVE HAS NO END.

*Preserve me, God, I take refuge in you. I say to the Lord: 'You are my God. O Lord, it is
you who are my portion and cup; it is you yourself who are my prize.'*

*I will bless the Lord who gives me counsel, who ever at night directs my heart. I keep
the Lord ever in my sight: since he is at my right hand, I shall stand firm.*

*And so my heart rejoices, my soul is glad; even my body shall rest in safety. For you
will not leave my soul among the dead, nor let your beloved know decay.*

*You will show me the path of life, the fullness of joy in your presence, at your right
hand happiness for ever.*

SECOND READING - 1 PET 1:3-9

*In his great mercy he has given us a new birth as his sons by raising Jesus from the
dead.*

Alleluia
Alleluia
Alleluia

GOSPEL - LUKE 24:13-35

*They recognised him at the breaking of
bread.*

**Spend some time in silence, reflecting on
the Word of God.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION - YOU MAY ADD YOUR OWN PRAYER INTENTIONS HERE

Pray for our Holy Father Pope Francis and all our Clergy and religious.

Pray for our doctors, nurses and all who are working to help and heal.

Pray for those in government, public office and those looking after the welfare of others.

Pray for all those who are suffering in mind or body.

Pray for all who are lonely, isolated and in need.

Pray for those who have died and are no longer with us.

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*Even though we
are unable to
receive Jesus in
the sacrament of
the Eucharist we
can make an act
of Spiritual
Communion by
saying the
following prayer*

Liturgy of the Eucharist

MY JESUS,
I BELIEVE THAT YOU ARE PRESENT IN THE MOST HOLY SACRAMENT.

I LOVE YOU ABOVE ALL THINGS,
AND I DESIRE TO RECEIVE YOU INTO MY SOUL.

SINCE I CANNOT AT THIS MOMENT RECEIVE YOU SACRAMENTALLY,
COME AT LEAST SPIRITUALLY INTO MY HEART.

I EMBRACE YOU AS IF YOU WERE ALREADY THERE
AND UNITE MYSELF WHOLLY TO YOU.

NEVER PERMIT ME TO BE SEPARATED FROM YOU. AMEN.

Here is a short reflection by Mark Buchanan on the journey to Emmaus

“I DON’T HAVE ANY MORE WISDOM IN OUR COURAGE FOR THIS JOURNEY
THAN YOU DO. MAYBE LESS. BUT IF YOU COULD USE A TRAVELING
COMPANION, I WOULD COME ALONG. I WOULD BE ONLY LIKE ONE OF
THOSE TWO MEN ON THE ROAD TO EMMAUS, MOSTLY CONFUSED MYSELF,
WITH A SLOW HEART THAT BURNED WITHIN. MAYBE TOGETHER WE WOULD
BE ABLE TO DISCERN CHRIST ON THE ROAD BESIDE US.”



Easter Story

Word Search

S	C	B	M	N	E	J	E	S	U	S	C	H	R	I	S	T
K	A	A	P	O	D	V	G	V	A	R	E	J	O	I	C	E
J	R	V	M	S	P	R	A	Y	E	R	W	C	B	V	F	S
Y	N	O	I	X	I	F	I	C	U	R	C	T	R	M	L	E
L	A	P	C	O	I	E	B	Q	O	X	B	B	N	O	O	L
I	R	E	S	U	R	R	E	C	T	I	O	N	R	E	S	T
T	R	E	P	P	U	S	T	S	A	L	Y	E	M	B	L	S
S	H	L	U	P	V	Y	T	K	V	F	D	M	T	E	K	O
O	C	A	R	N	E	P	A	X	R	E	S	I	H	M	R	P
C	R	M	E	P	E	N	L	D	M	A	N	A	O	I	E	A
E	U	B	I	K	G	A	A	P	I	J	R	R	R	R	V	V
T	H	X	C	H	Y	N	T	N	H	R	S	M	N	A	O	X
N	C	N	C	A	M	I	E	O	C	T	F	Y	S	C	S	J
E	K	E	R	K	O	S	E	W	N	E	I	D	A	L	S	U
P	U	T	O	N	I	R	N	W	R	P	Y	A	O	E	A	D
L	E	Z	W	R	W	M	D	R	Q	I	T	Y	F	O	P	A
B	S	M	N	D	I	S	C	I	P	L	E	S	C	X	G	S

APOSTLES
BETRAYAL
CAVE
CHURCH
CROSS
CROWN
CRUCIFIXION
DISCIPLES
FAITH
GOOD FRIDAY

JESUS CHRIST
JUDAS
LAMB
LAST SUPPER
LENT
MARY
MIRACLE
PASSOVER
PENANCE
PENTECOST

PRAYER
REDEMPTION
REJOICE
RESURRECTION
RISEN
SAVIOR
SON
THORNS
TOMB



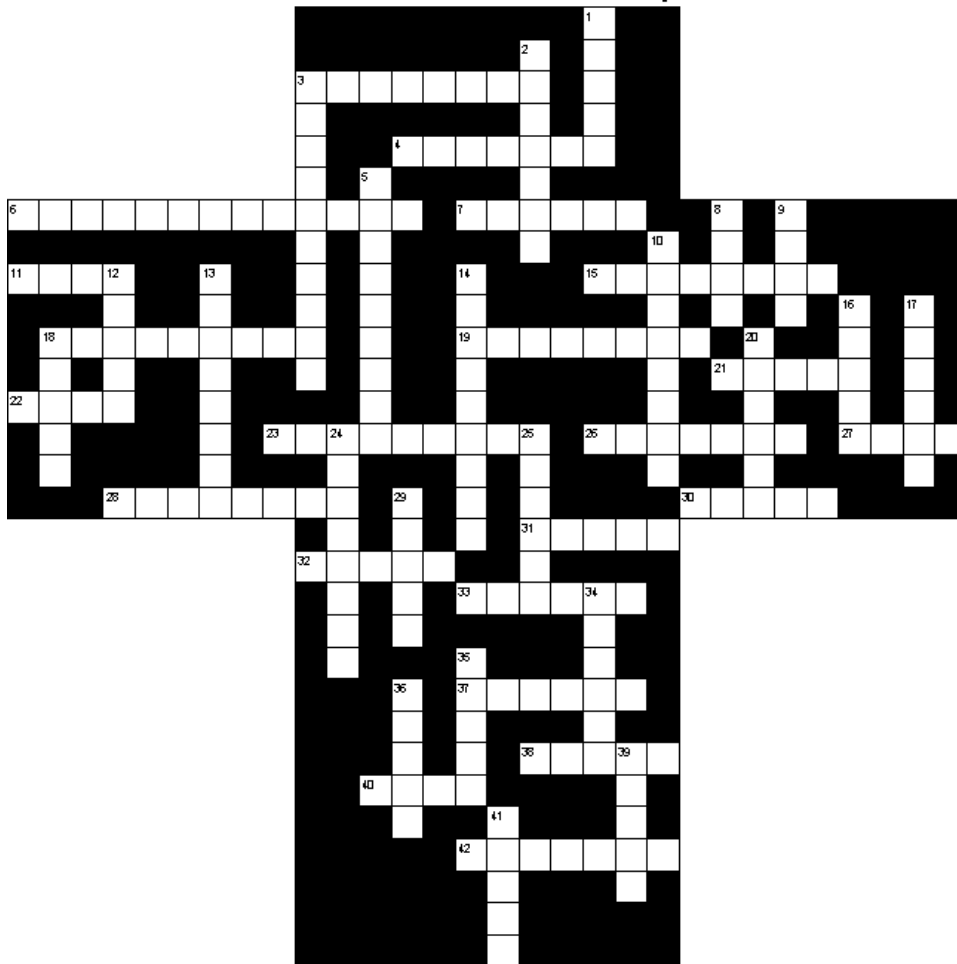
Down

- 1** One of God's messengers (5,2,3,4)
- 3** 1940s archaeological find (4,3,7)

4		5		6				7
12						13		
16				17				
20								

- 4** Tread down (7)
- 5** Father of Jonah (7)
- 6** Very salty water bordering Israel (4,3)
- 7** Defensive structures (11)
- 8** Refuges (11)
- 9** Dirty (7)
- 10** Devout (7)
- 11** Pieces of money (7)
- 24** Used to listen (3)
- 25** Used to see (3)
- 26** Positions (5)
- 27** Made available (7)
- 28** Snake (7)
- 29** Destroyed along with Gomorrah (5)
- 33** Finish (3)
- 34** Possess (3)
- 35** King of the Amalekites (4)
- 36** Last letter of the Greek alphabet (5)
- 37** Almost sacrificed by Abraham (5)
- 38** Present (4)
- 41** Unfasten (4)
- 43** Fish traps (4)

The Easter Story



Down

1. The father-in-law to the high priest. Jesus was first brought to him
2. Another name for the place of His crucifixion.
3. The garden where Jesus prayed before He was arrested
5. And it was the third hour, and they _____ Him.
8. This was written and set over His head: "_____ of the Jews"
9. Judas betrayed Jesus with a _____.
10. "Go ye into the world and preach the gospel to every _____."
12. Joseph took His body down and wrapped it in fine _____.
13. The prisoner released by Pilate instead of Jesus
14. The pharisee that brought spices for His burial
16. The apostle who betrayed the Christ
17. "Why seek ye the _____ among the dead?"
18. He was taken up; and a _____ received Him out of their sight.
20. Judas betrayed Jesus for thirty pieces of _____.
24. And they crucified Him, and parted His _____, casting lots:
25. He appeared to two disciples on the way to this village.
29. Jesus told Peter to feed His _____.
34. The Roman governor who washed his hands of the whole affair
35. This was rolled in front of the tomb and then sealed.
36. and His sweat was as it were great drops of _____.
39. The soldier pierced His side with this
41. He is not here: for He is _____ as He said.

Across

3. It means "A place of a skull;" Where He was crucified
4. These guys were crucified on each side of Him.
6. And He was numbered with the _____.
7. Jesus was anointed with precious ointment in preparation for His _____.
11. This part of the temple was torn in two from the top to the bottom
15. And when the sixth hour was come, there was _____ over the whole land.
18. This Roman said, "Truly this was the Son of God."
19. The high priest who said it was expedient that one man die for all.
21. The _____ of blood was purchased with the betrayal money
22. The disciple that took Mary home as his own mother
23. He appeared first unto Mary _____.
26. "Father, _____ them; for they know not what they do."
27. He shed His blood so our _____ would be forgiven.
28. The Last Supper was a celebration of this Jewish holiday
30. The ruler of Galilee
31. This was sent to strengthen Him when He was praying in the garden.
32. This apostle denied that He knew Jesus three times.
33. This wealthy man of Arimathea buried Him.
37. The doubtful apostle
38. "A spirit has not _____ and bones as ye see me have."
40. And they stripped Him, and put on Him a scarlet _____.
42. They gave Him this to drink when He was on the cross.

Easter Sudoku

DIRECTIONS: Fill in the grids so that each horizontal row contains each letter exactly once, each vertical column contains each letter exactly once, and each subgrid contains each letter exactly once.



SPROUT

S					T
		O		S	
	T	R	P		
	P				U
					O

BASKET

	B	T			S
	A			B	
			T		K
K		A			
	T	E			

SPRING

		N			
I			R		
				S	
	R		G		I
		I	N		
				G	

DUCKLINGS

	C			U	G	L	
		K	S	L	U		
U		N				I	
						K	C
L					K	I	
K		U				S	
					C	L	I
C	U	I	K		L	S	
			G		N		U

TULIPS

			U		T
	T	I		S	
	L				
		T	L		
	I			L	S



Easter Sudoku

SOLUTIONS

SPROUT

S	R	P	O	U	T
T	U	O	R	S	P
P	O	S	U	T	R
U	T	R	P	O	S
O	P	T	S	R	U
R	S	U	T	P	O

BASKET

E	B	T	K	A	S
S	A	K	E	B	T
A	E	B	T	S	K
T	K	S	A	E	B
K	S	A	B	T	E
B	T	E	S	K	A

SPRING

R	P	N	S	I	G
I	G	S	R	P	N
N	I	G	P	S	R
S	R	P	G	N	I
G	S	I	N	R	P
P	N	R	I	G	S

DUCKLINGS

I	C	S	N	K	U	G	L	D
D	G	K	S	L	I	U	C	N
U	L	N	C	G	D	K	I	S
G	I	D	L	U	S	N	K	C
L	S	C	D	N	K	I	G	U
K	N	U	I	C	G	D	S	L
N	K	G	U	S	C	L	D	I
C	U	I	K	D	L	S	N	G
S	D	L	G	I	N	C	U	K

TULIPS

L	P	S	U	I	T
U	T	I	P	S	L
I	L	P	S	T	U
S	U	T	L	P	I
T	S	L	I	U	P
P	I	U	T	L	S