

All Saints

NETTLEHAM PARISH CHURCH

St. Mary's

RISEHOLME PARISH CHURCH

The Good News from Nettleham

Sunday 19 April 2020

Easter 2

No 145

Father Richard writes....

This Sunday is often called Low Sunday. I have always thought that meant cutting back to simple liturgy, standing the choir down, and the incumbent going off for a few days to recover from Holy Week and Easter. All very plausible. Normally it is one the two or three weekends when I slope off to direct a choir for all the services in a cathedral - we've been to most over the years - and I should have been at Southwell this weekend. But this year we are in uncharted waters - in a way, every Sunday is Low Sunday!

A more likely origin of the title is that it is a corruption of the Latin word "Laudes". One of the Propers (special texts for specific days) for the Sunday after Easter is a plainsong hymn that begins *Laudes Salvatori voce modulemur supplici*. It is a bit like the way the name Maundy Thursday comes from a corruption of the Latin word "Mandatum" which we sing during the washing of the feet - a new commandment I give to you, that you love one another as I have loved you.

Here is a manuscript of *Laudes Salvatori*. >>



The manuscript is in the amazing library of the huge Benedictine monastery at Einsiedeln in Switzerland.

<< This is the Baroque interior of the church.

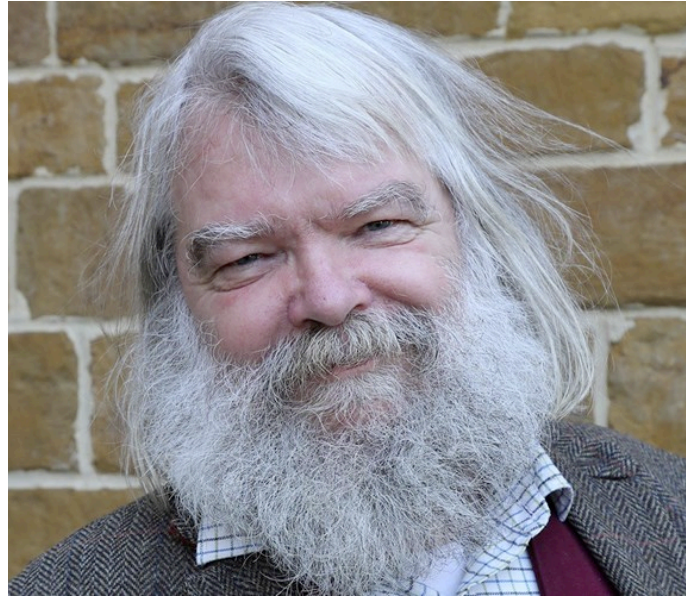


The eight days after Easter are called an Octave. We often focus heavily on festivals of the church in advance, and then forget them as soon as they have happened. The Octave helps to remind us of the importance of the resurrection, not just on Easter Sunday, but for the whole of our lives and the whole of the year. Every Sunday, especially as we celebrate the Eucharist and greet the risen Lord, is a celebration of the resurrection. Every Sunday is Easter. On this Low Sunday we are with the disciples in their lockdown. They are miraculously meeting their risen friend and saviour, sharing the good news, doubting, believing and working out what to do next. Just like us.

Poem for the week....

Many people are turning to poetry to make sense of the extraordinary times we are living in and to explore the amazing links between the good news and the story of the Passion and the events that surround us.

My favourite living Christian poet is Malcolm Guite. He has a column in the Church Times, he is a poet, writer, academic, priest and folk-singer. He works a bit like a Poet Laureate for the church, writing poems to mark events in the life of both the world and the faith community. I'm thinking I may have to model my hairstyle on his during the lockdown!



This wonderful poem was written for this Easter Sunday and sees Holy Week and Easter in terms of our Covid-19 experience.

And where is Jesus, this strange Easter day?
Not lost in our locked churches, anymore
Than he was sealed in that dark sepulchre.
The locks are loosed; the stone is rolled away,
And he is up and risen, long before,
Alive, at large, and making his strong way
Into the world he gave his life to save,
No need to seek him in his empty grave.

He might have been a wafer in the hands
Of priests this day, or music from the lips
Of red-robed choristers, instead he slips
Away from church, shakes off our linen bands
To don his apron with a nurse: he grips
And lifts a stretcher, soothes with gentle hands
The frail flesh of the dying, gives them hope,
Breathes with the breathless, lends them strength to cope.

On Thursday we applauded, for he came
And served us in a thousand names and faces
Mopping our sickroom floors and catching traces
Of that virus which was death to him:
Good Friday happened in a thousand places
Where Jesus held the helpless, died with them
That they might share his Easter in their need,
Now they are risen with him, risen indeed.

In need of prayer....

Mavis Kirton, Jan Cleveland, James Vincent, Sandra Lawley, Arielle Salt, Barry Crum, Heather Haynes, Chris Wooster, Julian Ellin, Harriet Rich, Ben Comins.

Please pray for those keeping our schools open for children of key workers and vulnerable children.

Please pray for all in our community who work in health services.

RIP....

We give thanks for the lives, pray for the souls and ask comfort for the relatives and friends of Ellen Uttridge, Kenneth Gibbard, Phil Edwards, Alan Dawkins, Revd Bill Williams, and Peter Turner.

Year's Mind

John Fountain (2016)
Dawn Ashworth (2009)
Marion Blakely (2011)
Brent Peppard (2019)
Beauford Cecil Mason (2017)
Harold Byrne (2018)

John Flanagan (2015)
Keith Darley (2014)
Pearl Thurkettle (2012)
Anthony Rice (2011)
Brian Wray (2006)

Poetry to uplift your spirits...

Would you like to hear a reading of a poem every day during these days of self-isolation? A member of our congregation has set up a new page on Facebook. You can listen to poems (e.g. Daffodils, The Owl and the Pussycat, The Lady of Shalott etc.) and also commentaries on some poems.

If you search on Facebook for 'Poetry to Uplift the Spirits' you should find it. This is the link to one of the poems:

<https://www.facebook.com/102587861385514/posts/106728034304830/?vh=e&d=n>

Some useful material during the lockdown...

There is some excellent material about to keep us busy, to keep us safe, to keep us prayerful and to build us up.

I'd like to commend the daily reflections done by our own Archdeacon of Boston, The Venerable Justine Allain Chapman. She is doing an A-Z of isolation resilience. Find her on Facebook and she is posting daily. Here is her piece for Monday 20 April

Resilience A to Z. O is for It's OK not to be OK.

I have struggled to find a balance between being a responsible citizen aware of the issues our world is facing and getting so overwhelmed by bad news and death tolls that my hope is eroded. Even though I limit the amount of times I listen to the news or look at a screen, and seek to give time to opening myself to what is life giving there are times when it's just too sad, or I am upset, angry. I have learned that it is OK not to be OK. Indeed not being OK is the reasonable, natural and compassionate response to what is going on.

It can be difficult to say it though. There's a judgement call to be made regarding what and how much you reveal about yourself and to who. Society seems to say you should always be happy and that being sad or showing sadness is a sign of weakness. Being human involves the full range of emotional responses. Being resilient involves acknowledging what you're having to cope with, what threatens you, as the first step to facing it and growing through the experience.

I am reminded of the prophet Elijah. He was capable, reliant on God, but otherwise pretty self sufficient and successful. He'd challenged the false prophets of Baal, won the contest and had to flee then from the evil Queen Jezebel. But then he wasn't OK. Languishing in the desert he feared for his life, felt his life was worthless and wanted to die. Exhausted he slept and an angel visited him, fed him and let him sleep (1 Kings 19).

Since Elijah was unused to being in the back foot, he was very keen to tell God about all the good things he'd been doing and how hard life was for him. God's response was to give him some time safely tucked away in a cave and teach him to honour silence. Elijah was too fired up, looking for God in the drama of earthquakes, wind and fire. It took him a while to realise God was to be found within, within a silence from which wisdom could emerge. For Elijah that meant securing a new political leader and someone, Elisha, to train up and eventually take over from him.

It is OK not to be OK, even, perhaps especially, if you are unused to acknowledging the feeling. Sleep, nourishment, some cave time and facing what is tough, not in the drama of it, but in a calm quietness, are necessary steps to honouring where you are at. You may well find the support of an angel or two, and later, insights that bring wisdom, purpose and a future.



Life at All Saints in Lockdown....

It seems likely we have weeks of even months of this ahead. I am immensely heartened by the number of people taking part in our shared worship online. The plan is:

Sundays and Festivals – A proper Eucharist at 10.00am streamed live on Facebook Live. I know some people don't have Facebook, but a lot do. We are reaching a huge number of our own folk and many more besides. Low Sunday had well over 300 people spending some time watching our Eucharist. I try to make it as inclusive as I can. Margaret joins me online – I judged you wouldn't want to watch us sharing when you can't physically share yourselves. I find the sense of togetherness and the presence of the Lord very powerful.

From tomorrow, I am planning that all these services which are live on Facebook will also be available to watch from 11.15 from a new Services Page on the website. That is at www.asn.church.

I'm working on a much more interactive online worship resource to access from the website which will be available each Sunday from lunchtime onwards to use when you want. A talk, some prayer, some video material and some music. Steep learning curve in putting it together, but hopefully others will in due course be able to plan some of the Sundays.

Weekdays - From this week we will also offer a live streamed Eucharist on Thursdays at 10.00am. On Wednesdays we will have a live Eucharist at 10.00am on Zoom – it means you can meet and chat, and it also means Revd Judy and Bishop Nigel will be taking some of them. You will need to email me or Shirley by the end of the previous evening if you'd like an invitation. If you haven't used Zoom yet it is very easy. Once you have an invitation, just before the start time you just click the link you've been sent and your computer or tablet or smart phone does the rest. You may have to adjust your sound and your microphone. Once you've said hello it is best to press the little button on the screen that says "mute", or every time you rattle something in your room it takes over the sound for everyone! Lots of help available if you get stuck. We always have a bit of a laugh!

Also from this week, it would be great if a few people could begin to host on Zoom some morning or evening prayer. Whatever time you like, but I'd say 9.00 works pretty well. And 5.30pm. I will lead Friday mornings, and also say Compline on Sunday nights, at 9.30pm. Let Shirley or me know if you'd like to do this, and we will put it in the diary. Best if you originate the act of worship. You can become a Zoom Meeting Host for free as long as you don't want more than 40 minutes, and you can invite up to 100 to it!

Also from this week, a Zoom-based Ducklings online coffee morning from 10.00 until 11.00. Just ask for an invite and make a cuppa, get your toddlers playing and join for a chat and a catch up. This week I will risk being mobbed – just click this link at 10.00 –

Richard Crossland is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Ducklings Coffee Morning

Time: Apr 21, 2020 10:00 AM London

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/5117660087>

Meeting ID: 511 766 0087

Contact me or Russ Coulter if you need help setting up Zoom or website stuff!

Fr Richard

Money, money, money....

The closure of our church building for worship and all other activities, the closure of our Parish Centre, the stopping of weddings and baptisms and indeed of funerals in church – these have all affected our life as a parish in many, many ways.

Financially it is a very difficult time for the church, as it is for many people in our congregation and our community. There are some savings, of course – no need to heat the buildings and no costs of printing, catering or activities. But most of our costs are pretty fixed. We want to be able to spend more on help for the community, and it would be good to be able to help in those places in the world that are going to feel the worst of this virus because of crowding, poverty, lack of medical and sanitary services.

Our income is quite badly hit – not as badly as most churches as 80% of our congregation contribution comes via the Parish Giving Scheme or Standing Orders. However, the part that comes from plate collections has dried up completely, as has income from weddings and church funerals, and all our fundraising activities like barbecues and open days.

By next Sunday we will have altered some of those parts of the website where you can make donations. It will be easier to click through from watching or taking part in worship to make a gift. It will be possible to make a one-off gift to the general fund of the church or schedule a monthly donation (which you can cancel any time), and we will be able to get tax back if you are a taxpayer.

It could be a good moment to think about joining the Parish Giving Scheme. Lots of us use this efficient, confidential and absolutely free to you and the church way of supporting our work and ministry. It is done by Direct Debit, you are completely in control and well protected in the law. You can opt to be offered an inflationary uplift on each anniversary of your joining – you don't have to do that but it is a timely reminder of the need to evaluate your giving each year. Russ Coulter has forms to join – send him a request and he will get a copy to you by post (or quicker if you are on the route of his daily exercise regime – ok, just kidding).

If you are already a regular giver, do please think about increasing your regular amount or making a one-off payment to help during this challenging time. If you've had to cancel a holiday or some other expense during the lockdown, consider putting what you have saved into the church and/or other charitable giving. Of course, we understand that many will be facing financial difficulties yourselves during this lockdown. Lots of people here have lost all or some of their livelihood. So we are expecting some people to have to hold back on giving – and that is fine. Let us know about hardship – we're family!

If you've joined the All Saints worshipping community online during the Coronavirus Pandemic and would like to join in helping to keep our church flourishing, worshipping God and supporting each other and the wider population, then do give online, or contact Russ about regular giving. Russ is available by email at treasurer@asn.church.

While we are talking money, may I ask you all to consider continuing your support for the church, its historic fabric and its future facilities, but most specially its continuing worship, life and mission after you die by including us in your will. The church offers helpful resources for those wishing to remember their spiritual home with a gift, large or small. Again, advice is available from Russ, and there is really good material at <https://www.churchlegacy.org.uk>.

Prayer Diary....

Day	Diocese, wider church	Parish
Sunday 19th The Second Sunday of Easter. Alphege, Archbishop of Canterbury, Martyr, 1012.	We pray for the ministry of apologetics, helping those with honest doubts to discover the reality of Jesus. We pray for doubters, those with unanswered questions, and we pray for ourselves as we seek to commend and defend our faith. <i>The Church of Ireland</i>	Risen Christ, for whom no door is locked, no entrance barred: open the doors of our hearts, that we may seek the good of others and walk the joyful road of sacrifice and peace, for the praise of God the Father. Amen.
Monday 20th	We pray for the Revd Neil Shaw ahead of his licensing as Rector of the benefice of Stamford All Saints with St John. <i>Montana (USA): The Rt Revd C. Franklin Brookhart; Wiawso (West Africa): The Rt Revd Abraham Kobina Ackah; Igbomina – West (Nigeria): The Rt Revd Olajide Adebayo</i>	Our clergy, Reader and Administrator. <i>Pray for Fr Richard, Revd Judy. Bishop Nigel, Jane Hanson and Kath Pickering</i> We pray for the residents of Hall Lane, Lincoln Road and Nettleham Heath.
Tuesday 21st Anselm, Abbot of Le Bec, Archbishop of Canterbury, Teacher of the Faith, 1109.	We pray for the work and support offered by the Diocesan Advisory Committee for the Care of Churches (DAC). <i>Montreal (Canada): The Rt Revd Mary Irwin-Gibson; Willochra (Australia): The Rt Revd John Stead; Ijebu (Nigeria): The Rt Revd Ezekiel Awosoga; Ijebu – North (Nigeria): The Rt Revd Solomon Kuponu</i>	Our choir and organists <i>Pray for choir members, for our Choir Mistress, and our organists</i> We pray for the residents of North Greetwell: Westfield Avenue, Westfield Approach and Westfield Drive.
Wednesday 22nd	World Earth Day. Immingham. The Revd Julie Donn. <i>Moosonee (Canada): The Rt Revd Thomas Corston; Winchester (England): The Rt Revd Tim Dakin</i>	Our churchwardens, sidespeople, readers and intercessors. We pray for the residents of North Greetwell: Lawley Close, Greetwell Close and Wragby Road East
Thursday 23rd George, Martyr, Patron of England, c. 304.	The North Chapel Parishes: In vacancy. <i>Moray, Ross & Caithness (Scotland): The Most Revd Mark Strange (Primate); Windward Islands (West Indies): The Rt Revd C. Leopold Friday; Wondurba (South Sudan): The Rt Revd Matthew Taban Peter</i>	Charities we support and the FiSH project We pray for All Saints Church, St Mary's Riseholme, the Methodist Church and Threshold.
Friday 24th Mellitus, Bishop of London, first bishop at St Paul's, 624.	Ordinands and Readers in training. We pray for those studying at the Lincoln School of Theology and those following courses and attending colleges elsewhere. <i>Morobo (South Sudan): The Rt Revd James Kenyi Elia; Worcester (England): The Rt Revd John Inge</i>	The Sacristy team and Servers. <i>We pray for the whole team and their ministry for us</i> We pray for the nursery, infant and junior schools.
Saturday 25th Mark the Evangelist	The Waltham Group: Waltham, Barnoldby le Beck, Brigsley, Ravendale, New Waltham, Ashby cum Fenby. The Revd Kimberley Bohan. <i>Morogoro (Tanzania): The Rt Revd Godfrey Sehaba; Wulu (South Sudan): The Rt Revd Zacharia Mangar Apeti; Ijesa North East (Nigeria): The Rt Revd Joseph Olusola</i>	Our Family Church, Cuppa Time, Ducklings and their leaders whilst not meeting We pray for Church View, the health centre and all health care workers.

Helping hands....

There is a great community spirit in our village of Nettleham at the best of times, and most people in All Saints are at the heart of the organisations and the activities that promote it. We are seeing the best of people in these times – especially helping those who for one reason or another are locked in self-isolation. Shopping, fetching, helping with problems, being a friend on the end of a phone or a Skype or Messenger time.

We are stepping up our action this week – focusing next on feeding those who cannot afford to feed themselves or their families properly. We are going to be a conduit for the Community Larder and for the time being, arranging collection of nourishing and easily prepared food for struggling families and individuals. Welton St Mary's is now a weekly collection point for people who have been referred and assessed as in need and they have volunteers running that on Thursdays in partnership with points on the Ermine and St Giles estates. You will soon find lists of required foods – the people don't get to choose because of distancing – they get two carrier bags of food. They want:

Tins of: fruit, rice pudding, tuna, meats – (e.g. stews, meatballs, curries), hot dogs, peas, carrots, sweetcorn, tomatoes.

'Weetabix' or own brand equivalent, other breakfast cereals, instant coffee (small jars), sugar -250g packs, jam, marmalade or lemon curd, pasta sauces. semi-skimmed UHT milk. Instant mashed potato, biscuits, puddings, jellies, Angel Delight.

They also need money to buy goods to balance the bags and fresh items. Talk to Judy if you'd like to help. Otherwise put goods in wheelbarrows that should appear outside church and at the bottom of the Rectory drive later this week.

Remember, the scarcer it is for you, the more difficult it is going to be for struggling families to find or afford it. Let Fr Richard or Judy know if you or someone you know might need help with food.

Contact...

Rector: Father Richard Crossland

Mobile: 07717 767879

Desk: 01522 754752

rector@asn.church

Assistant Curate: Revd Judy Shaw

judy@asn.church

Mobile: 07594 670408

01522 809846

Licensed Reader: Jane Hanson

Ordinand in Training: Kath Pickering

Parish Administrator: Shirley Keyes

01522 931076/931075

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07943 099431

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Treasurer: Russ Coulter

Churchwarden: Andy Lewis

Churchwarden: Lynne Combes

Parish Safeguarding Officer: Russ Coulter

Pastoral Care Coordinator: Jean Gledhill

safeguarding@asn.church

gledhills@talktalk.net

01522 751451

Parish & Deanery Virtual Office open weekdays 9.30am-12.30pm

*To discuss a baptism, wedding or funeral, please call Administrator, Shirley Keyes.
If you need to talk to a priest, please call Fr Richard or Reverend Judy.*