



Welcome to
Saint Bernadette's Church
12th April – 18th April
Easter Week (A)

Parish Priest: Canon Geoffrey Hunton KHS, STB, BA

Saint Bernadette's Presbytery
Ashby Road
Scunthorpe
DN16 2RS
Tel: 01724 844895

Email: geoffrey.hunton@dioceseofnottingham.uk

Office Email: stbernadettesashby@gmail.com

Assistant Parish Priest: Father Liam Carpenter

Tel: 07908 631607

Email: anselmcarpenter@aim.com

Website: www.stbernadettesashby.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/stbernadettesashby/

Chair of PPC: Sue Cave

Tel: 01652 651379

Safeguarding Officers: Pauline Hayne

Tel: 01724 869572

Janice Moran

Tel: 01724 871329

EMOHC Co-ordinator: Jane Lowden

Tel: 01724 764569

Parish Catechist: Yvonne May

Email: yvonnemay124@icloud.com

Parish Centre rooms to hire

If you would like to book the Parish Centre hall or one of the three meeting rooms

Telephone: 01724 862804

Email: stbernadettesparishcentre@gmail.com

Registered No: 1134449

Co Registration No: 715164



Easter Reflection

“The other disciple, running faster than Peter, reached the tomb first; he bent down and saw the linen cloths lying on the ground ...but did not go in.”

It is possible – and wise theologians have done it – to read into this passage a typological statement about Peter, as founder of the Church; and indeed, there is nothing wrong in this. But at the literal and more human level there is also material for reflection.

We all see the events from Good Friday to Easter Sunday morning in a distorted perspective. We can't not, because we know what happened at Easter. Imbued with the story of Jesus' rising on the third day, we inevitably think in terms of his being dead and buried for three days. That is an anachronistic viewpoint. Viewed through the eyes of anyone who lived through those days, Jesus was dead and buried for ever, until something new and unimaginable happened.

The situation on Holy Saturday, as far as the disciples knew, was not that Jesus was going to rise tomorrow but that he was dead and would never rise again. This Gospel moment on Easter Sunday has to be understood in the same sense. What was in John's mind as he ran? He knew the most perfect and Godlike man had been humiliated and destroyed in the worst way imaginable, because he had seen it happen. Now he was on the journey of mourning enacting his grief and paying his respects. And as he approached the tomb he saw that something had happened.

Stop there for a moment, remembering to forget the Resurrection, and think what that “something” could have been. What could possibly have happened, except something bad? Primitive societies show extreme respect for their enemies' dead. If their enemies cannot retrieve those bodies then they bury them themselves, according to their own rites or according as close an approximation to the enemy's rite as they can manage. But the Jews and the Romans were not primitive but civilised. They had no superstitious taboos about death. So, if the tomb was disturbed, it could only be that Jesus' executioners had decided that death was not enough for him – that the one they had humiliated and spat on in life had to be desecrated in death also.

That is what John ran towards and stopped because he could not bear to see it. It was Peter, the impulsive, and unthinking, who went on an, looking in, found the world upside down. (HW)

From Canon Geoffrey

To all Parishioners. I do hope you are all keeping well and safe. Please continue to remember in your daily prayers those who are working hard to keep us all safe at this difficult time.

The past few weeks, as we have come to realise have been strange, perhaps disturbing and I daresay at times difficult. Our routines have been sent askew; our usual thought processes and ways of dealing with challenges in life, likewise, may have been thrown off course; at the time of writing there appears to be no end to the current situation. When we have so much time on our hands it can be very difficult to know what to do with it. I was listening to an interview on the radio the other day and the person being interviewed said they spent much of their time looking at clocks and watches, wishing the time away until they could go to bed. That can be very true, and we may have all been tempted in such ways to think like that over the past three weeks or so, a very human reaction; I know I have!

On the 19th and 20th March Fr Liam and myself celebrated our last public masses before the lock down began. I mentioned at the masses I celebrated on 20th March that it was Dame Vera Lynn's 103rd birthday and how the song "We'll meet again" kept coming into my head. Many of you will have heard The Queen's address to the nation last Sunday evening, Palm Sunday, when she finished, she also quoted those four words. It is true we will meet again, but on this Easter Day as Christians we are meeting each other in a particular and significant way. Like Peter and John in today's Gospel we too are running towards the "tomb", running towards the unknown. Unlike Peter and John, however, we run towards an "unknown" which should not cause us to be fearful for we know that we shall encounter the Risen Lord. We are not meeting him again as something of the future, but we are meeting him now, this Easter Day, in the present. Amidst the difficulties that currently beset us, let us all unite ourselves in Easter Joy, let us meet each other again this day in prayer, in faith, in hope and in love.

Please continue to keep in your prayers all the sick, vulnerable and those who are in isolation at this time and where possible do keep in touch with these members of our parishes, via the telephone or email.

To you all, please keep safe and well.

With every blessing to you all

Canon Geoffrey & Fr Liam

On-line Resources

Every evening at 7:30pm (UK time) one of the Taizé community groups share their prayer by live stream. This, with some additional information, can be found at: http://www.taize.fr/en_article27540.html

CAFOD

<https://cafod.org.uk/Pray/Prayer-resources> including Stations of the Cross and our Lent Calendar

Children's Liturgy session, live on Sunday mornings at 10am <https://cafod.org.uk/Education/Children-s-liturgy>

Primary School <https://cafod.org.uk/Education/Primary-teaching-resources/Home-learning-primary>

Secondary School <https://cafod.org.uk/Education/Secondary-and-youth-resources/Home-learning-young-people>

Easter Masses and Devotions

Live Streaming of Easter Masses and Devotions

St Barnabas Cathedral

http://www.stbarnabascathedral.org.uk/01_Community/livestream.html

Holy Saturday The Easter Vigil Mass at 7pm.

Solemnity of Easter Day Of The Resurrection Of The Lord Mass at 10am.

All the Masses and the Good Friday Liturgy will be Private and will be streamed live from the Cathedral, they will all also be recorded. Bishop Patrick will be the Celebrant from Holy Thursday onwards. Please join us via the live streaming so that we can all prayerfully unite with the Cathedral celebrations in our own homes.

