

St. Mary's Falmouth & Helston RC Parish

The Parish is a part of Plymouth RC Diocese, a Registered Charity no. 213227

Parish Church:- St Mary Immaculate, Falmouth serving St Edwards, Mawnan Smith

St Mary's, Killigrew St, Falmouth, TR11 3PR - email: falmouth@prcdtr.org.uk phone 01326 312763

Parish Priest - Father Brian Kenwick V.F.

Safeguarding Officers: - Sheila Jordan (619648), Hilary Kiszczuk (212070)

Parish School: St Mary's RC Primary, Mongleath Road,

01326 314540

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER (YEAR A)

Psalter 2

19th APRIL 2020



FALMOUTH

SAT 6.30 pm FALMOUTH
SUN 9.00 am MAWNAN SMITH
SUN 10.45 am FALMOUTH

All public Masses suspended
Fr Brian will offer Sunday Mass for the
People of the Parish privately

Weekday Masses (2nd week of Easter)

MON Easter weekday
TUES Easter weekday
WED Easter weekday
THUR ST GEORGE
FRI Ss. Aldabert & Fidelis
SAT ST MARK

All public Masses suspended
Fr Brian will offer daily Mass for the
People of the Parish privately

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION Currently unavailable

HELSTON

St Mary's Helston, serving St Michael's Mullion.

email: helston@prcdtr.org.uk phone 01326 572378

Resident priest - Fr Paul Andrew Email: frpaulandrew@live.com emergency contact 07548654893

See also our Facebook page: "Catholics on the Lizard Peninsula"

Safeguarding reps: Meg Trevaskis & Margaret Chambers. Hall contact: - Lorna Bean 07769176130



SUN 9.00 am HELSTON
SUN 11.15 am MULLION

All public Masses suspended
Fr Paul will offer Sunday Mass privately

Weekday Masses (2nd week of Easter)

MON Easter weekday
TUES Easter weekday
WED Easter weekday
THUR ST GEORGE
FRI Ss. Aldabert & Fidelis
SAT ST MARK

All public Masses suspended
Fr Paul will offer daily Mass privately

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION Currently unavailable

Please contact Fr Brian if you have a relative in danger of death for advice.

All

On-Line Masses

Several places are live-streaming Masses, this is one <https://mass-online.org/daily-holy-mass-live-online/> as we hear of others we will let you know. We have also received an email from our sister parish in **Falmouth Massachusetts** offering their live Masses, they invite us to connect to their website falmouthcatholic.org to join them in worship--the times may be a bit daunting, but we can access the service really at any time .

And, of course, **Fr Paul** is live streaming on his Facebook page – 9.30 am daily and the Bishop is streaming from the cathedral on YouTube – Plymouth diocese, check cathedral parish newsletter for Mass times.

2nd Sunday of Easter

St. Francis Bacon was an English philosopher and statesman who in his time served as Attorney General and Lord Chancellor of England. He died in 1626.

St. Francis Bacon wrote these words: “If we begin with certainties, we shall end in doubts; but if we begin with doubts, and are patient in them, we shall end in certainties.”

In today’s Gospel we meet the disciple Thomas one of the most well known of all the saints.

Now the Gospel tells us that his relationship with the Risen Jesus Christ begins with doubt and questions. Yes, Thomas doubts the truth and reality of the resurrection of Jesus.

However, after meeting and experiencing the risen Jesus in a most personal and intimate way the doubts of Thomas disappear.

In fact this period and time of doubt for Thomas ends with the certainty of his belief in the resurrection through his great statement of faith, “My Lord and My God.” The nagging uncertainty of doubt ends with the certainty of faith in Jesus Christ, the Risen Lord.

The experiences of life can sometimes shake and rock our faith. Personal experience of pain, suffering, illness and the death of a loved one can cause even the strongest Christians to doubt and question.

For me, I find helpful the words of Khalid Gilbran, the author of the book ‘The Prophet’, who wrote these words, “Doubt is a pain too lonely to know that faith is his twin brother.”

In other words doubt and faith can often be closely related.

We must always remember the example of Thomas in today’s Gospel. Although he denied and doubted the resurrection of Jesus, Our Lord did not abandon Thomas. He did not write Thomas off.

On the contrary Jesus came to Thomas to encourage him and to strengthen Thomas out of his doubts. If at times, on occasions, we doubt, we question, we can be certain that Jesus understands and will never cast us aside.

As we celebrate the new life of the Easter Season remembering the words of Jesus to Thomas, “Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe,” may the gift of the Holy Spirit encourage us to doubt our doubts before we doubt our faith.

Circumstances, the negative experiences of life can cause us to doubt, and at times our doubts can seem to be as large, as huge as a mountain.

However, Jesus tells us that faith and trust in Him can move those mountains.

For many of us the coronavirus has been a great challenge to our faith. Our churches are closed and no public Masses are celebrated, no baptisms, no confirmations, no weddings, no funerals in the church. The pillars and foundations of our faith have been swept away. Many of us cannot even find support and solace in the company of our family and friends

To be perfectly honest with you all when the lockdown began I doubted, I questioned whether I had the faith, the strength and the ability to live a solitary life without my friends and without the parish community I have the privilege to serve.

I shared my doubts and fears with two of my closest friends and they told me not to doubt myself for I had what it takes to get through because the Jesus I cannot see is with me, my constant companion, travelling with me through my doubts and fears and my loneliness.

It seems to me that if we doubt the power of Jesus and the power of our faith then we give power to our doubts.

What the lockdown has taught me is that the love of God and the love of our parish, family and friends does not die because of distance.

Doubts may well come our way but the Gospel tells us that Jesus is with us, alongside us in our doubts, fears and questions. Our Lord understands.

In these difficult and challenging times may our brothers and sisters never doubt the love of our parish for one another. As the love of Jesus encouraged and supported Thomas in his difficulties we share the love of our Lord through our support, care and kindness for others.

May God bless you and keep you safe.

Fr Brian

From Father Brian

Despite the present difficulties and problems I do hope and pray that our faith is holding firm and Our Lord continues to spiritually feed and nourish us all during this Eastertide. This coming Thursday (23rd April) is the Solemnity of the Martyr St George, Patron Saint of England and Protector of the Realm. May all of us ask St George and indeed St Andrew, St David and St Patrick to pray for our countries that the coronavirus dragon will be slain and defeated. May all of us hold each other in prayer as we look forward to that glorious day when we will come together in our churches to celebrate Mass and praise God.

May God bless you all.

Points to Ponder

Endurance is not just the ability to bear a hard thing, but to turn it into glory

(William Barclay)

God is not interested in whether you stood with the great. God is interested in whether you sat with the broken

Please remember in your prayers **Pamela Bielawski**, the mother of Father Jon, who is very poorly at the moment. I'm sure many of you must have met Father Jon's mother when he was parish priest at Falmouth. So, may we keep the both of them in our prayers.

Diary Dates – all events are postponed or cancelled at this time

Prayer Requests

Please pray for those in the Parish who are sick or housebound or in need of our prayers.

Falmouth:

Kathleen O'Flaherty, Colin Campbell, Annette Biagini, Theresa Sullivan, Isabella Grace, Colin Jago, Jason Campbell, Sylvia Rowe, Winn Xenaky, Sister Martin, Steven Pellow, +Pat Berney, Hugh McLoughlin, Rosemary Moffat, David Stevens, Noelle Elliott, Mary Froom and Wendy Pyatt.

Helston:

Heather Ashton, Frieda Curnow, Poppy DeAth, Isobel Ellis, Mary Gilbert, Mary Harry, Walter Hayes, Celia Kirkland, Colin & Theresa Neal, John Shiell and May & Gordon Steward.



The statue of The Sacred Heart of Jesus at St Edwards , Mawnan Smith, surrounded by spring flowers, reminding us of the beauty of God's creation and of new life that will come to us. All things must pass except the love of God.