



St. Patrick's Church

Broad Green/Cowley Drive Woodingdean BN2 6TB



Our Lady of Lourdes

Whiteway Lane Rottingdean

St. Patrick's Newsletter

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MASS at Our Lady of Lourdes is streamed live: for full details see <https://www.ololandstp.org/>

Mass on Tuesday 26th April at 9.30 am, Liturgy on Mon (Convent), Thurs & Fri at 9.30 am

Vigil Mass Saturday 6.30 pm; Sunday Mass: 10.30 am

St Patrick's – Mass: Sunday 24th April at 9 am: Divine Mercy Sunday

Welcome to the 52nd "apart but together" e-newsletter (24th April 2022)

"Because where two or three have come together in my name, I am there among them." Matt 18

On Being Sent

Barbara Bond

As the Father sent me, so am I sending you John 20

I am sure that I was not the only one to feel the power of our singing "Now the green blade riseth" on Easter morning with the sunshine illuminating the altar. After two Easter celebrations apart, it felt as if we had indeed come in from the wilderness and I was hearing the words anew, recognising something that had always been there in plain sight.

In Chinese medical understanding the energy of the springtime is quite feisty.

Indeed we often describe nature as "bursting with new life". As we marked Earth Day on April 22nd I was reflecting on how the Risen Lord is at the centre of all my doings; a promise of rebirth, almost a

pulse of purpose. St Ambrose said, "In Christ's resurrection the earth itself rose".



***We praise you, Lord, for all your creatures,
especially for Brother Sun, who is the day
through whom you give us light.***

***And he is beautiful and radiant with great
splendour of you Most High, he bears your
likeness.***

***We praise you, Lord, for Sister Moon and the
stars, in the heavens you have made them
bright, precious and fair.***

***We praise you, Lord, for Brothers Wind and
Air, fair and stormy, all weather's moods, by
which you cherish all that you have made.***

***We praise you, Lord, for Sister Water, so
useful, humble, precious and pure.***

***We praise you, Lord, for Brother Fire,
through whom you light the night. He is
beautiful, playful, robust, and strong.***

From Canticle of the Sun, St Francis of Assisi

Pope Francis tells us how we need to see things: "We human beings are united as brothers and sisters on a wonderful pilgrimage, woven together by the love God has for each of his creatures and which also unites us in fond affection with brother sun, sister moon, brother river and mother earth". (Laudato Si', No. 92).

Ilia Delio, a Franciscan theologian, reminds us that, "We are an Easter people and we are called to celebrate the whole earth as the body of Christ. Every act done in love gives glory to God. The good news? 'He is not here!'. Christ is everywhere, and love will make us whole."

Being sent into the world is a huge calling. I pray that I never stop living in the hope of new life, a hope that can ground us in the solidarity of compassion our world so needs.

The newsletter in this form will now take a pause. Please send ideas about the most useful format and scope for a post-pandemic newsletter to Barbara: bond_barbara@ymail.com

CAFOD Ukraine Humanitarian Appeal



Like you, CAFOD is deeply disturbed by the ongoing attacks on Ukraine. Together, we stand in solidarity with the Ukrainian people and send our prayers to our sister organisation Caritas Ukraine, and those Caritas agencies in neighbouring countries. We are part of one of the largest aid networks in the world – **Caritas Internationalis**. As one Caritas, we stand united with them.



What is happening?

Russian armed forces began their attack on Ukraine by invading the country on Thursday 24 February, targeting military bases and Ukrainian cities. Tetiana Stawnychy, President of Caritas Ukraine, said at the time that “[this] crisis will inevitably lead to a colossal humanitarian catastrophe”. Thousands of civilians, including many children, have died. As the fighting continues these figures rise. Food shortages have forced millions of people from their homes. The bombing of public services like schools, hospitals and train stations has caused acute suffering.

According to UNHCR, the UN’s refugee agency, over 5 million people have fled Ukraine into neighbouring countries (mainly to Poland, Hungary, Moldova and Romania), with millions more having to leave their homes inside Ukraine.

Caritas organisations are already on the ground:

Caritas Ukraine has 19 centres across the country. They are already helping by: Running warm and safe ‘collective centres’ which provide beds, food, washing facilities and safe spaces for children; transporting people to friends, family, or the collective centres for shelter and support; organising Child-Friendly-Spaces where children can play sports and do arts and crafts as a means of coping with their experiences.

Caritas Spes-Ukraine, a charity of the Religious Mission of the Roman Catholic Church in Ukraine, is helping children and families to reach safe locations. They are continuing to operate in direct conflict areas, providing emergency shelter often in parish basements they have equipped with bedding and supplies. They are also distributing humanitarian aid in their centres across the country and to people who have fled to the borders.

Caritas Poland, Caritas Romania and Caritas Moldova are all supporting people who have fled Ukraine and are in need of food, water, shelter and means to continue their journeys to safety.

Please donate at: <https://cafod.org.uk/>

Resurrection Light

**Risen Christ, when
darkness overwhelms us,
may your dawn beckon.
When fear paralyses us,
may your touch release us.
When grief torments us,
may your peace enfold us.
When memories haunt us
may your presence heal
us.**

**When justice fails us
may your anger ignite us.
When apathy stagnates us
may your challenge renew
us.**

**When courage leaves us
may your spirit inspire us.**

**When despair grips us
may your hope restore us.
And when death threatens
us, may your resurrection
light lead us.**

Amen.

Annabel Shilson-Thomas/
CAFOD

“Salvation and glory and power belong to our God. Alleluia! His judgements are true and just. Alleluia!”

Rev 19

Community News – St Patrick's

Fundraising This SUNDAY 24th April at St Patrick's we are having a fundraising spring sale.

It is after Mass 9.45am until 12 noon.

We have Plants, Preserves and Cakes. We have tray bakes, tarts, biscuits to have with coffee or tea or to take away. Tea and coffee available too.

Jams include marmalade, rhubarb, redcurrant, raspberry and other garden fruits.

Plants are grown from seed or are cuttings / root division. The seedlings of edibles like tomato, courgette, herbs, beans, lettuce are ready to grow on in pots or garden.

Some, including ornamentals, should not be put outside too soon.

Fund raising dates – free in August?

We have booked Woodingdean carnival for July 2nd.

But **we need more helpers** if we are to book Rottingdean Village Fair space on Saturday August 6th. Please let Irene know now if you are around on that day, can help for a while or provide plants and preserves which we will sell. icgreen@ntlworld.com

Celebration of Fr Benny's 50th anniversary of ordination

Saturday 11th June. Mass 12.00 followed by finger buffet.

Preliminary discussion on a 5G telecom mast

See St Patrick's Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/StPatricksWoodingdean> for a post I shared from the Woodingdean Community Facebook page. As well as location, near the church, there are photos of the relative size of the mast. 15 metres is 49.2 feet. It is overpoweringly inappropriate in this situation where the houses are no bigger than two storey. The health risk to parishioners or local residents is minimal <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-europe-48616174>

Would this mast be proposed for a more affluent suburban site? **Help our neighbours on Broad Green and nearby** by advising councillors what you think about this proposal. Councillor Dee Simpson dee.simson@brighton-hove.gov.uk and Councillor Steve Bell steve.bell@brighton-hove.gov.uk

Fire regulations: Jane, John and Irene are updating our Fire Regulations in accordance with the listing from the diocese. We want to update our list of Fire Wardens.

Can you confirm that you wish to continue being a fire warden and thank you so much to the new volunteers, can't have too many. This is not an onerous job, but you do need to read, understand, and remember the instructions (on notice boards in the church kitchen and porch, anyway).

We want to take a mug shot of you on Sunday please, or you can provide a photo (not with others, fairly close up) we will put all the photos and names on the Fire Warden list.

INVITED

The Diocese is inviting you to a new Season of **Invited** between Easter and Pentecost.

Use this weblink to register, you will receive emails on Monday and Thursday. Monday gives text, easy to find. It also gives a video of the speaker's presentation and an interview with a parishioner who has a witness to give (quite hard to find the video, found it after the Thursday zoom). This is it: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pU7ILioDS8s>

Start here to register or read text, see videos <https://www.abdiocese.org.uk/invited>

Singing Together class at St Patrick's.

Starts Monday 9th May, 6.45-8.45 pm with a break for tea and a chat. This is two weeks away, so booking is required soon.

Fee is either £25 (concessions) or £90. Tutor Hanna Burchill. To book your space phone 01273 546602 or 07749 357321.

"Praise our God, all you his servants, Alleluia! You who fear him, small and great. Alleluia!" Rev 19

Easter Prayers, Ukraine Brooches and Prayer Chain

Brooches for Ukrainian Refugees

A big thank you to all who donated so generously to the brooches for Ukrainian refugees. £140 was raised, which has been sent to CAFOD's appeal for donations to help the Ukrainian Refugees.

Sheila Cullen

Triumphant Jesus

"They took the body of Jesus and bound it in linen cloths with the spices". John 19.40

You raised Lazarus from dead,
saying

"Unbind him, let him go free."

You too were bound and laid
to rest

in a cold tomb, freshened by
myrrh and aloes.

Unbind us so that we may also go free.

In sorrow we left you as the
dead Jesus
and in wonder you returned to
us as the Risen Christ.

Untied from the strips of linen,
you offered us a new-found
freedom.

Raise us from the coldness of the tomb in which we are trapped.

With this freedom we are
empowered to make choices
about our lifestyle and
attitudes,

But our human frailty
prevents us from being
courageous
by taking those first vital
steps.

Release us from the self-imposed exile of our prejudices.

Amen.

Tony Singleton/CAFOD

A Prayer for Ukraine

Loving God,
We pray for the people of
Ukraine,
for all those suffering or
afraid,

that you will be close to them
and protect them.

We pray for world leaders,
for compassion, strength and
wisdom to guide their
choices.

We pray for the world
that in this moment of crisis,
we may reach out in solidarity
to our brothers and sisters in
need.

May we walk in your ways
so that peace and justice
become a reality for the
people of Ukraine
and for all the world. Amen



Prayer Chain for Ukraine

In the last newsletter I invited people to join our prayer circle for Ukraine so that every hour someone is holding everyone affected in their prayers.

It is not intended that you spend a very long time just that we know that there is an unbroken chain of prayer. We have a few gaps... please email me bond_barbara@ymail.com and I will add you to the rota.

Barbara Bond

Time in Brighton (Ukraine)

Who is praying

05.00 (07.00)	Margaret Bradford
06.00 (08.00)	Bernadette
07.00 (09.00)	Eileen and Patrick
08.00 (10.00)	Frances
09.00 (11.00)	Anna & Eugeniusz
10.00 (12.00)	Alison Tighe
11.00 (13.00)	Patrick B.
Midday (14.00)	Maureen James
13.00 (15.00)	Sheila
14.00 (16.00)	Peter
15.00 (17.00)	Maureen Buni
16.00 (18.00)	
17.00 (19.00)	Pat Peers
18.00 (20.00)	Barbara
19.00 (21.00)	
20.00 (22.00)	
21.00 (23.00)	
22.00 (24.00)	Irene
During the night: Hilary	

"The Lord our God, the Almighty, reigns. Alleluia! Let us rejoice and exult and give him the glory. Alleluia!"

Rev 19

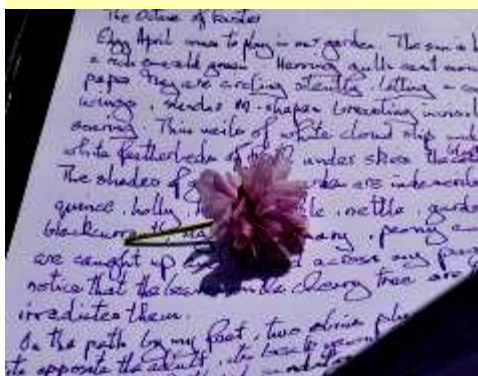
Afterthought: The Octave of Easter

Patrick Bond

"Why are you weeping? Who are you looking for?" Supposing him to be the gardener... John 20 v 15

Edgy, gusty April has come to play in our garden. The sun is hot and the grass is verdant – a rich emerald green. Herring gulls cast momentary shadows across my writing paper. The birds are circling silently, letting a cool northerly breeze just caress their wings as they soar, slender white M-shapes breasting invisible rollers.

Thin veils of white cloud slip under the higher altocirrus, which look like puffy white featherbeds of froth in skies the colour of Paul Newman's eyes.



The shades of green in the garden are endlessly various: privet, bay, quince, holly, honeysuckle, nettle, bittersweet (woody nightshade), cuckoo-pint (lords-and-ladies), blackcurrant, sage and rosemary, peony and pyracantha.

Suddenly pink and white cherry petals are caught up and swirled in the air. A complete flower lands in the middle of my page. I notice that the leaves on the cherry tree are lemony-orange where the sun is shining through them.

On the path beyond my feet, two robins plummet to the ground. One is a fledgling, and the moment it lands, it faces the parent bird, its beak yawning open and its wings quivering like a miniature

feathered sandstorm. Baby robins have a heavily speckled head and breast, and a slightly hunched look; like all baby birds they are plump and rounded. The (not-plump, harassed) parent pops a beak-full of morsels into the gaping bill, instantly takes off, and is instantly pursued by the youngster. They disappear into a twist of shadow.

New fledglings make a repeated, thin squeak, high-pitched and just on the edge of my hearing, so that adults can locate them and bring food. An older, more independent fledgling (from a previous brood) is silent, foraging on his own. He has been methodically hopping round the path, picking up one thing and another without much discrimination, spitting out stones, and learning as he goes along.



Another sharp gust of wind comes, swirling a slow blizzard of cherry petals all through the garden's mosaic of light and dark spaces, sunlight and shadow: a flood of individual blessings, like prayers on the wings of desire.

It is Eastertide, and life gives thanks for this changing, beautiful abundance – the fullness of God in the garden.



***Eternal Trinity, Godhead,
mystery deep as the sea, you
could give me no greater gift
than the gift of yourself.***

***For you are a fire ever burning
and never consumed, which
itself consumes all the selfish
love that fills my being.***

***Yes, you are a fire that takes
away the coldness, illuminates
the mind with its light and
causes me to know your truth.***

***By this light, reflected as it were
in a mirror, I recognise that you
are the highest good, one we
can neither comprehend nor
fathom.***

***And I know that you are beauty
and wisdom itself.***

St Catherine of Siena

"In our baptism, we have been buried with him, died like him, that so, just as Christ was raised up by his Father's power from the dead, we too might live and move in a new kind of existence." Rom 6:4