



## EASTER 2020

Dear Friends

This Year so far has been most unusual. All of our lives have been turned upside down as a consequence of the COVID 19 virus. Those who have contracted the virus, loved ones of those who have died of it, health care workers who are in constant risk of contracting it, those who cannot work and have lost their income, those whose plans for the future have been lost or put on hold; all of us know someone who is severely effected.

There are a number of things that call to us. The first is to change our behaviour so that our communities can overcome the virus, and to be diligent in following the instructions of public health authorities. The second is to look out for each other, and respond to the needs of those around us, particularly of those whose life is significantly diminished or jeopardized by self-isolation; who needs help with groceries? who is going to need help with gardening when nature bursts into life again? who is lonely and needs someone to talk to? COVID 19 is a call to us to support each other; and especially to us, as people of faith.

This is normally the time when we are observing Holy Week and celebrating the great festival of Easter. And although we cannot gather together for that celebration, Easter still happens and we can, individually or within our family know that the promise of new life is not threatened. We can still affirm that all that separates and injures and destroys has been overcome by what unites and heals and creates. Easter says that all the Good Fridays, however powerful, however destructive, are not the end.



Jesus is the Lord of the future; Jesus leads us to the future. In Mark's Gospel, the angels tell the women who went to the tomb: "He is not here...he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him..."

Jesus is going ahead of us. We'll find him in the future. Don't seek Jesus among the dead. Don't seek Jesus in the shadows of the past. He has gone before you.

And you'll find him, perhaps where you wouldn't expect to.

He has gone before us to the end of this pandemic;

to where people are putting their lives back together again;

to where people have discovered new opportunities they could never have dreamed of before.

Jesus is already there.

Our Easter hope says that Jesus has gone before us into the wholeness and health that God wills for all of us.

## **WORSHIP RESOURCES**

A reminder that worship resources are being posted on the Parish website [holyltrinitymetcalfe.com](http://holyltrinitymetcalfe.com) so that each Sunday you can in your home join in scripture passages, prayers and a sermon. Find them under the link "Newsletter and Announcements".

As a special for Easter Day, we have recorded a video of me leading an Easter service in our Church, which will include the music of a number of Easter hymns, and posted it on YouTube. There will be a link on our website so you can watch it. In case you have difficulty with that link, we will duplicate the Easter Day resources in the same text format we've been using.







## **CONTINUED SUPPORT OF HOLY TRINITY CHURCH**

A gentle reminder: please consider your continued financial support of Holy Trinity. We understand fully that some parishioners are experiencing financial difficulties of their own in these times, and we respect that support of the Church has become difficult for them. However, the Church obviously has reduced income without Sunday collections, and Hall rentals.

There are a number of ways donations can be made (see "Donations and Offerings" on the website). Or you may contact our Treasurer, Meredith Brophy at 613-277-1608 who can make arrangements for no-contact pick up or delivery of any donations and/or documents, being assured of keeping confidentiality.

## **DIOCESAN ACW**

Will ACW members note that several Diocesan ACW events have been CANCELLED; re-evaluation and re-planning will happen when COVID 19 crisis is over.

ACW Annual Meeting , (April 22)  
Bale Packing Days (April 27 and May 27)  
Evensong to Celebrate Vanners (May 3)

May your Easter be blessed.

Paul Blunt

