

THE PORTICO

Prayers on the Piazza



A group of parishioners took the initiative last Saturday to pray the Rosary together for the Ukraine on Lemon Quay. They are planning to repeat this act of public witness and invite all readers to join them next Saturday 9 April at 11am.

Consecration of Ukraine and Russia

Last Friday 25 March the Pope prayed the Act of Consecration of Russia and Ukraine to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. He prayed in communion with all Catholic Bishops across the globe, as the Papal Almoner, while Cardinal Konrad Krajewski, did the same at the Shrine of Our Lady of Fatima, in Portugal. Nearer home, Bishop Mark led the Rosary that morning in Plymouth Cathedral, while here in Truro, the Act of Consecration was prayed after morning Mass.



Bishop Mark said that "We know that there is a great need for the gift of peace and reconciliation, and we will be commending all those who are suffering at this time to Our Lady, knowing that she will present all her suffering children to Our Lord."

Sr Augustine, RIP



Many readers will remember Sister Augustine who returned to God recently. For many years, she was part of St Michael's Catholic Small School in Truro, where she was a familiar sight accompanying the children to Mass on Wednesdays.

Messages



THE PORTICO: 2 Years Old!!

Is it already two years since we first published THE PORTICO? Begun as a short-term project to keep our community in touch when COVID-19 started, we've been kept going by the urgings of our readers, so a big

"Thank You!"

to all our friends — readers and especially our contributors — for supporting us these two years!

Churches Together in Truro

As we emerge out of the Covid restrictions, the leadership of CTT felt it was time to review how we are seen and function in our City. A small group from the executive met to pray and discuss ways in which we might change. Better communication among the churches, with shared knowledge about the various projects which are currently taking place was one area in which change was needed. It was felt that a wider understanding of how evangelization is already taking place in creative ways would encourage new ventures to reach into our community. Growing together in meaningful relationship as part of the one family is a prayer which the

executive ask all church members to participate in.

A coming report will highlight how we want to move forward together.

St Piran's Church Garden



After raking, weeding and removing some of the many stones, it was time to sow wildflower seeds on the sunny side of the car park garden. Thanks to Sam, for the seeds and for the sowing.

A Lenten Reflection: How can we help people who have strayed from the church feel at home again?

In a reflection on the gospel for the Fourth Sunday of Lent, Fr Terence points out that in the parable of the Prodigal Son, it is hunger that brings the prodigal son home. He suggests that Christ proposes the parable to draw our attention to spiritual hunger, which is easier to dismiss, even deny, until we no longer can.

Many individuals begin to struggle so much with life that there just is not time for spirituality. But that does not remove their hunger. How can parishes reach out? How do we make them feel welcome again?

Fr Terence suggests that we are called to renew our own commitment to the life of our parish. Do not think of it as simply the local franchise, but our home. From the moment Christ first summoned his disciples and called the church into existence, he made it clear that we are fed in community, in a life shared with other believers. Sacraments are public acts of parishes; all are bred in bonds of communion.

Find a people who can be your home.

Hunger drives people home. We must work to see that they have one waiting for them.

Read the article by Fr. Terence Klein in [America Magazine](#)



(Messages cont....)

"full of interesting and pertinent items of news." *Mary B*

"Much to think about" *(Fr D)*

"It was especially interesting to read Gabi's account of her Dad's amazing and practical help by opening his home in Poland to Ukrainian refugees. I wonder how many of us would have reacted in that way. Well done Gabi and your Dad!" *(Nan)*

"thank-you's" from many readers for PORTICO 63 and text of the Pope's prayer of Consecration of Russia and Ukraine to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. *Also:*

"Perhaps we should also include Yemen and Syria who have been in war torn circumstances for years already." *(Jean)*

"Well done to Liz for taking on the CAFOD walking challenge - best of luck." *(Nan)*

(Ed Note: Liz has come down with Covid so we wish her a speedy recovery)

Monday Evening Prayer:

Join Monday Evening Prayer at 6 pm. All are welcome. Contact Deacon [Andrew Shute](#) for more information.



SVP Truro Group

For a friend in need
Call us on 07474-941099 for help, a chat, or to join

A Prayer Request:

Please pray for Eugene in Mariupol, a young invalid who is bedridden with MS, who we used to visit and pray with. Over the years he has kept in touch via the internet in which he could only type messages using his mouth. He taught himself English listening to "Voice of America". He is a keen chess player and loved to get sea shells for his collection. His mother is his carer. Even getting a workable wheelchair was a miracle. And now this. Eugene needs to find hope in Jesus but has lost touch with his faith. (from Val)

A Cry from Mariupol

Hello Val,

It's Eugene from Mariupol. I hope you are all right and my message arrives you.

My family and I are alive. Our flat/home not exist - the house total destroyed. We are now homeless.

I only have this old laptop and some clothes which I put on when we run out of our fired flat. My wheelchair is broken too.

3 weeks we "lived" in a small basement 2x2 meters under non-stopped shelling. We-9 people did not have food almost during 27 days.

We used snow to do water for drink. That was the real hell! Now we are in the 7 kilometer's row and are waiting for registration out of Mariupol.

And then we must to drive somewhere in search any shelter. We really don't know where to drive, we have no money to hire or buy a house.

I don't have any Internet connect. I try to catch any wifi to send my emails.

I'll email you when we will be in safely place. I'll write a good story of my life, when I can do it.

Your friend

Eugene.

Our Creation Day Tree



The Amelanchier tree dedicated by the Parish on Creation day in September 2019, is now in bloom!

Do spare a moment to pause, admire and reflect on our duty of Care of Creation as you pass by the tree at Our Lady of the Portal

Stations of the Cross: Jesus is Condemned to die

Though Pilate recognises that Jesus is innocent of any crime,

Lenten Lunch kickstarts our parish lunches!

Around two dozen people really appreciated the opportunity to share a largely home-made meal together, catch up with friends - and make new ones - at our first soup lunch in more than two years. There was a real buzz in the atmosphere and an evident appetite for more lunches to come!

The lunch was free, courtesy of Truro SVP and friends, but generous donations raised £105 for the Romanian SVP Conferences, who are helping refugees from Ukraine.



he is sacrificed to pacify the agitation against him led by the Chief Priests and the Elders. It was a political murder. Jesus had challenged religious practice which was mere lip service rather than love of God and neighbour.

Jesus who sacrificed yourself for us, help us always to seek justice for those unjustly condemned, and to stand back from popular

clamour against any individual or group. (Francis)

PLEASE SEND US YOUR NEWS, EVENTS, PRAYERS

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Write to us at
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