

# St John's and St Katharine's

## WEEKLY EXTRA

### Easter Monday 13th April 2020



*Pasque (Easter) flowers in Pat Lawless's garden. Photo Richard Lawless*

#### Welcome!

Thank you to everyone for the continuing flow of articles and photos. We may feel cooped up in our homes at the moment, but nature's flora and fauna are rich in their variety and abundance outside our windows, and hopefully the photos in this *Weekly Extra* echo that.

We were pleased to hear that both of our featured hymns from last week made it into the Archbishop of Canterbury's Easter Service broadcast on Radio 4 on Easter Day – so can we put that down to inspired choices or is our circulation wider than we think?

Thank you to Kevin for his Thought for the Week – Ross next week.

**Elaine Gilbert** ([elainegilbert@live.co.uk](mailto:elainegilbert@live.co.uk))

**Mandy Crook** ([amandacrook@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:amandacrook@blueyonder.co.uk))

**'Happy Birthday' to Chris Lewis, whose birthday is on the 15th.**

#### Prayer of the week

New this week from the Church of England is a book called *Prayers: For use during the coronavirus outbreak*. You can download it from the 'media centre' on the CofE's website. Here is a sample prayer:

Lord Jesus Christ, you taught us to love our neighbour, and to care for those in need as if we were caring for you. In this time of anxiety, give us strength to comfort the fearful, to tend the sick, and to assure the isolated of our love, and your love, for your name's sake. Amen

Another resource freely available is the Church of England's EasterPilgrim series of 40 reflections on The Lord's Prayer which starts today (Easter Monday). Search for EasterPilgrim on the CofE's website to download it.

... and don't forget the *Church Times's Lift up your Hearts* supplement – Google Church Times Lift up your hearts.

**Janet Caudwell**

## Lockdown DIY

We have two building projects going on in our gardens at the moment.

In the back garden, the wood pigeons are busy nest-building in the fir tree (the one which provided the branches for the 'Christmas trees' at St John's Advent Fair and finally exited church after Candlemas), and in the front garden, the humans have been building a bug hotel.

Sadly, our Frome Festival workshop 'Build a Bug Hotel' had to be postponed until next year, but we thought the local bugs could do with something now. So we collected together some corrugated paper, tubes (carpet roll inner tubing, silver foil rolls and the like), swept the driveway for fir cones, old leaves, moss, bark and twigs, cut a base board 350mm x 275mm, found a couple of old slates, and armed with a glue gun and two cups of coffee, set to.



We had actually packed one tube with organic matter the day before as a test run, and found some tiny creatures had already taken up residence – clearly there was a market demand! We would have liked to use some bamboo, but that was 'locked down' elsewhere. Nevertheless, we were pleasantly surprised with the result.

The bug hotel is now in a secluded spot in the front garden. Our local robin, an inquisitive little chap, kept an eye on proceedings during construction. Hopefully his interest will wane, otherwise we may need to re-locate it.

We'll keep an eye on both projects and hopefully bring you an update in a few weeks' time.

Are there any other unusual Lockdown DIY projects out there? **Elaine**



## Thought for the week

Many of us try to make a special effort to observe the season of Lent with adding something extra to our Christian pattern of life. We make the choice. At this time we find ourselves with profound changes imposed upon us by outward circumstances. Our lives as individuals and the things we do communally in normal times have been transformed. Some of us find ourselves confined to our own homes and company, some alone, others with an immediate family. We are called to forgo the gifts of the sacrament and fellowship in worship. The priest and palaeontologist Pierre Teilhard de Chardin found himself in 1923 in a remote part of China, far from any Christian community and with very limited human fellowship. He wrote of his celebration of what he called 'The Mass on the World'. This is part of his vision:

*Since once again, Lord...I have neither bread, nor wine, nor altar, I will raise myself beyond these symbols, up to the pure majesty of the real itself; I, your priest, will make the whole world my altar and on it will offer you all the labours and sufferings of the world.*

*Over there, on the horizon, the sun has just touched with light the outermost fringe of the eastern sky. Once again, beneath this moving sheet of fire, the living surface of the earth wakes and, once again, begins its fearful travail. I will place on my paten, O God, the harvest to be won by this renewal of labour. Into my chalice I shall pour all the sap which is to be pressed out this day from the earth's fruits.*

*My chalice and my paten are the depths of a soul laid widely open to all the forces which in a moment will rise up from every corner of the earth and converge upon the Spirit. Grant me the remembrance and the mystic presence of all those whom the light is now awakening to a new day.*

Let us strive to see beyond our present difficulties to the deeper reality of the glory of God. Let us build up a vision of the spiritual unity that links all humanity. Let us explore our own circumstances which have been cleared, in a sense, of much of the clutter with which our society surrounds us.

**Kevin Tingay 1 April 2020**



## Life on the *Queen Mary 2*

### Chapter 3: Thirteen days at sea

*Lois and Terry's trip continues – mostly without touching dry land*

We were obviously very disappointed that we were going to miss seven ports of call, and that in fact we were to have 13 days at sea. However, there was plenty to do on board: besides the four swimming pools, a gym and a large library, there were classes in foil fencing, dance, art, Spanish, golf, Zumba, Trivia, 'Chairobics', bridge (which Terry joined) and photography, to name but a few. There was also a planetarium with seats that tipped back and left you encompassed by a circular dome displaying moving celestial images. Concerts were held in the afternoons together with a variety of musical performances. Also a film was shown daily at different times.

We had some excellent daily lectures. One was by Pam Ayres, who wrote a poem about the *Queen Mary 2* whilst onboard, which was then sold for charity. On top of the day's activities there was a twice-nightly show in the theatre, featuring a singing and dancing group who stayed onboard, supplemented with additional artists who were brought on at different ports.

We had chosen an early sitting for dinner on a table of eight and met some lovely people from all over the world. We were one of the rowdiest tables in the restaurant and often the last to leave before the next sitting started.

We arrived at Kuala Lumpur to take on fuel and supplies and to allow some passengers to disembark – no new passengers or crew were allowed to join us. You can see from the photo that there was another



*Lois – with all she was allowed to see of Kuala Lumpur in the background*

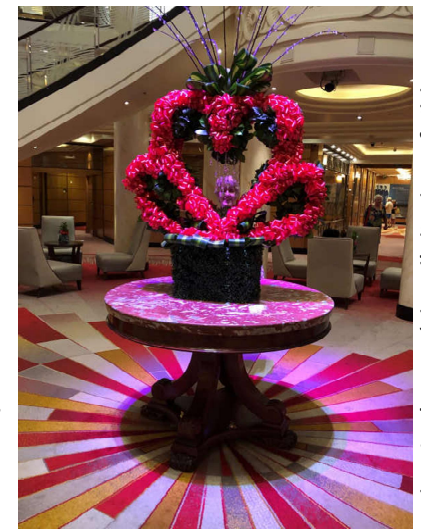
cruise liner there and those passengers were allowed off – however, they were subsequently refused entry at other ports because they had done so. All we could do was watch goods being loaded, including packs and packs of toilet rolls! We did not know of the shortages at that stage.

We sailed on past Singapore – as you can see from the photo, so near and yet so far. We had planned to visit the Marina Bay Sands Hotel – in the photo, the three towers with the top floor over all three (which contains an infinity swimming pool) – and enjoy a Singapore Sling cocktail, but it was not to be!

On 13th February we crossed the Equator, and the traditional 'crossing the line ceremony' took place, by which 'Pollywogs' (people crossing for the first time) graduated to 'Shellbacks' by being plastered with different coloured gunk and then jumping into the pool to wash it off – quite revolting but very entertaining and everyone enjoyed it. We did not take part, but we did receive a certificate to say we had crossed the line.

The next day, Valentine's Day, the chefs made a great effort with all the ice sculptures and carved fruits and a huge variety of delicacies. There was always a beautiful floral display in the Grand Lobby; however, as they did not have any fresh flowers available, the display was made out of ribbons – as you can see in the photo above, it was superb!

**Lois Bushell**



*Valentine's Day 'Floral' display of ribbons*



*Singapore from afar ...*

## PUZZLE PAGE – Word Search

Delete the words listed, and you will be left with part of the Archbishop of Canterbury's Easter message

T	O	M	B	E	V	C	R	I	S	E	N	E
N	I	N	T	H	E	U	D	S	T	A	W	B
R	K	J	D	A	Y	R	S	O	O	O	I	E
F	T	E	H	I	S	T	E	L	N	A	N	T
S	T	R	P	E	G	A	R	D	E	N	E	R
C	R	U	C	I	F	I	X	I	O	N	E	A
R	W	S	E	V	L	N	B	E	A	V	C	Y
T	J	A	A	I	N	A	F	R	O	L	R	A
E	U	L	E	N	L	E	T	S	E	A	S	L
M	D	E	G	E	T	H	S	E	M	A	N	E
P	A	M	G	G	D	A	B	L	O	O	D	O
L	S	N	N	A	P	B	O	D	Y	H	O	P
E	A	E	C	R	O	S	S	N	A	I	L	S

Passover  
 bread  
 wine  
 body  
 blood  
 betrayal  
 Jerusalem  
 Pilate  
 Judas  
 Gethsemane  
 trials  
 Crucifixion  
 soldiers  
 cross

nails  
 vinegar  
 temple  
 curtain  
 tomb  
 angel  
 stone  
 risen  
 gardener  
 Mary

... and this week's SUDOKU:

	7					6		
				7	1			
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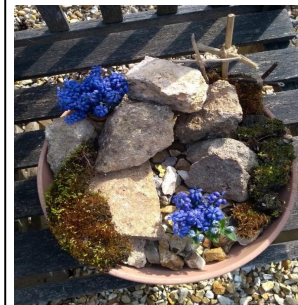
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## Hymn for next Sunday – Low Sunday

Rosemary suggests 'Ye Choirs of New Jerusalem'. YouTube clip: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=edBsZuOJif8> There are no words onscreen, and we don't have room here to include them all, but here are the first and last verses:

Ye choirs of new Jerusalem, your sweetest notes employ,  
the paschal victory to hymn in strains of holy joy.

All glory to the Father be, all glory to the Son,  
all glory, Holy Ghost to thee, while endless ages run. Alleluia, Amen



In last week's 'Weekly Extra', Janet Caudwell promised to create a small Easter Garden, and to prove she did it, here's the photo. She says: 'The grape hyacinths lasted just long enough for me to construct some sort of Easter Garden – not enough jam jars though!'

And finally, our 'social distancing' photo of the week: *'Whilst out for our daily exercise, we must make sure we stay in our family group'*



**Answers to last week's hymn emojis:** 1. Shine Jesus shine 2. Holy, holy, holy 3. Be thou my vision 4. One more step along the world I go 5. Come down O love divine 6. Lord of the dance 7. Crown him with many crowns 8. Hills of the north rejoice 9. The king of love my shepherd is 10. Lo he comes with clouds descending