

Dear Friends of St Mary's

Second Sunday in Easter

“Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name. “ John 20 verses 30-31

We live, as the Chinese proverb puts it, in interesting times! We live in post Resurrection times as the final verses of this Sunday's gospel reminds us. We are reminded of our own humanity and frailty as we recall the words of Thomas as he demands proof of Jesus' rising. He is, unfairly in my opinion, called Doubting Thomas. Perhaps he should be redefined as Questioning Thomas, because I think we can all associate ourselves with him.

This week marks two saints' days that we would have observed in St Mary's with a Holy Communion service in the Norburychapel. Wednesday sees the commemoration of St George, our national patron saint and Saturday is St Mark's day. I highlight this to remind us that the life of the church goes on regardless of Coronavirus.

Jesus is showing many other signs of his presence in the world today. I am sure that you have been moved, sometimes to tears, by the many reports about our wonderful NHS and care workers giving all they can to help the sick and suffering. How they hold the hands of people dying alone and often setting their own safety aside. “But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name. “ John 20 verse 31

In order to get through these difficult times, we need to dig down deeply into our spiritual reserves. We need to remind ourselves that we are in the post Resurrection period and that in Jesus we have new life and new hope.

Keep safe and well. Thoughts and prayers.

Godfrey