

A minute's silence

In Remembrance of the lives lost
and all who mourn.

Those who we feel deep within our hearts today
As they struggled with each day.



2020-21

**28th February 2021
Second Sunday in Lent**



The Grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the Love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all

And also with you

Call to worship

As the Sun rises in the morning, as the cool breeze ushers in the evening, as the heat of the noonday sun spreads across the land, God is present with us. My dear friends let us worship God together.

Silence

(Ask God to speak to you now)



Rock of Ages

Youtube- Rock of Ages

•6 Nov 2008



[SE Samonte](#)

A Christian hymn composed by Augustus M. Toplady in 1775. Sung in this video by the Antrim Mennonite Choir, from their album 'Amazing Grace.'

1. Rock of Ages, cleft for me,
 Let me hide myself in Thee;
 Let the water and the blood,
 From Thy wounded side which flowed,
 Be of sin the double cure,
 Save from wrath and make me pure.
2. Not the labor of my hands
 Can fulfill Thy law's demands;
 Could my zeal no respite know,
 Could my tears forever flow,
 All for sin could not atone;
 Thou must save, and Thou alone.
3. Nothing in my hand I bring,
 Simply to Thy cross I cling;
 Naked, come to Thee for dress;
 Helpless, look to Thee for grace;

Foul, I to the fountain fly;
Wash me, Savior, or I die.

4. While I draw this fleeting breath,
When my eyes shall close in death,
When I rise to worlds unknown,
And behold Thee on Thy throne,
Rock of Ages, cleft for me,
Let me hide myself in Thee.



Prayer

Praise to you, the God of all the earth, for you make your presence known. In the wonder of your creation. You made the universe, and you made each one of us. Loving God as we look at the wonders of the world, the mountain ranges, the silent deserts, the raging seas, the starlit skies, we fall silent in awe and wonder. When we consider the wonders of humankind, our agile bodies, our complex emotions, our intelligence and understanding, we fall silent as we remember how often we do not use our potential, and we ask for forgiveness. Loving God, sustainer of all you have made, you always work for the good of your creation. As you brought order from chaos, so you bring hope out of despair, reconciliation out of bitterness, and new life from the old. In silence we gratefully accept your forgiveness so readily given. As forgiven people we renew our commitment to Jesus Christ, Our Lord this day Amen.

Psalm 147:1-9, 14-18

¹ Praise the LORD. How good it is to sing praises to our God, how pleasant and fitting to praise him! ² The LORD builds up Jerusalem; he gathers the exiles of Israel. ³ He heals the broken hearted and binds up their wounds. ⁴ He

determines the number of the stars and calls them each by name.⁵ Great is our Lord and mighty in power; his understanding has no limit.⁶ The LORD sustains the humble but casts the wicked to the ground.⁷ Sing to the LORD with grateful praise; make music to our God on the harp.⁸ He covers the sky with clouds; he supplies the earth with rain and makes grass grow on the hills.⁹ He provides food for the cattle and for the young ravens when they call. ¹⁴ He grants peace to your borders and satisfies you with the finest of wheat. ¹⁵ He sends his command to the earth; his word runs swiftly.¹⁶ He spreads the snow like wool and scatters the frost like ashes. ¹⁷ He hurls down his hail like pebbles. Who can withstand his icy blast? ¹⁸ He sends his word and melts them; he stirs up his breezes, and the waters flow. Praise the LORD.



Jesus addressed the Issue in his parable of the Good Samaritan. Yet, there was still times when we are tempted to walk on by. We tell ourselves that, if we didn't help, at least we did no harm. But there are other forces than good in the world, forces that need only the absence of good for their work. The great novelist Robert Louis Stevenson, in a letter to his mother, wrote, "It is much more important to do right than not to do wrong: further, the one is possible, the other has always been, and will always be, possible. Given that neither Christ nor Stevenson believed in a neutral choice, choose, my friends, to do good! (The Friendship book Sunday 28th February 2021)

Amazing Grace

Youtube- Amazing Grace - Best Version By Far!

•24 Jun 2011



[Gary Downey](#)

Amazing grace! how sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me.
I once was lost, but now am found,
Was blind, but now I see.

'twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
And grace my fears relieved.
How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believed.

Through many dangers, toils and snares
I have already come;
'tis grace hath brought me safe thus far
And grace will lead me home.

The lord has promised good to me
His word my hope secures;
He will my shield and portion be,
As long as life endures.

Yea, when this flesh and heart shall fail,
And mortal life shall cease,
I shall possess within the veil,
A life of joy and peace.

When we've been there ten thousand years
Bright shining as the sun,
We've no less days to sing god's praise
Than when we've first begun



Reflection

Can you ever imagine - You are in your neighbour's house. Since you are new to the neighbourhood, it's a welcome and get to know you dinner, nobody has asked you is there any type of food you cannot eat...Now, the dreadful moment has arrived, the hostess has come into the dining room with the dish of the evening, her husband mentions that she has been cooking all day for this event...suddenly terror over comes you as you hear everyone saying yummy, curry. Is this a recipe you collected when in India, it will be spicy you thought? You have entered an uncharted territory, because there is one thing you cannot eat is spicy food. Then suddenly the smell starts to confirm your dreaded fears. As the hostess excitedly says yes, it is, I hope you all love curry fish stew, your insides are churning, but with a smile on your face you accept your plate gracefully, wondering why this is happening to me.

Last year I asked would anyone like to have a zoom book club meeting...the response was not what I had expected, there was less than a handful of people who responded. The book I thought might be interesting to read was, "When bad things happen to good people, by Harold's Kushner since no one wanted to join a zoom book club meeting I have decided, that you're not going to get away from it... for Lent I will try to talk a bit about this book

When bad things happen to good people, this is one question many people have asked ... The theological problem of trying to explain why evil and suffering exist in the world is referred to as theodicy. The central quandary is this: "Why do terrible things happen in a world governed by an all-powerful, all-knowing, all-good God?" How can God simultaneously possess all three of these qualities and yet allow bad things to happen to good people, and with such frequency and such savage intensity? For some this is a reason why they cannot believe in God..they

see the hurt and the pain in the world, the devastation from natural disasters, the end result of a terrorists attack, a family member being diagnosed with an incurable illness, watching someone die a painful death, and today, well for the last year the pandemic the world finds itself in, the coronavirus where so many lives have been taken... We wonder where is God and how can God allow this to happen, on hearing such sad stories of people speak about how their lives have been turned upside down because the loss of a loved one, for many, they have lost their jobs and cannot pay their daily and weekly bills, homes are being sold because mortgage payments cannot be paid, emotions are running high as families are desperate to see relatives. Especially those who are struggling...

The majority of us will say we are not perfect, while we would consider that we are not bad, we do try to do good, help others and not to be selfish where we put ourselves before someone in need, we try to lead a good moral life, yet we are still suffering and at times suffer greatly.

I am sure we all remember the Queens speech in which she said,

"1992 is not a year on which I shall look back with undiluted pleasure. In the words of one of my more sympathetic correspondents, it has turned out to be an 'Annus Horribilis'. I suspect that I am not alone in thinking it so. Indeed, I suspect that there are very few people or institutions unaffected by these last months of worldwide turmoil and uncertainty."

I am sure we all will say that the last year has been certainly an Annus Horribilis rather than annus mirabilis

I don't have the answers, to Why does bad things happen to good people, and I would never pretend that I do, one thing I do believe is God does not wish us to suffer... The book the Eighth day by Thornton Wilder, Harold Kushner mentions that Wilder writes, of a good and decent man whose life is ruined by bad luck and hostility. We don't get a happy ending, instead what we get is Wilder giving the reader an image of a beautiful tapestry. Usually tapestries are an intricately woven work of art, drawing together threads of different lengths and colours to make up an inspiring picture... turned a tapestry over and what do you see, probably an untidy mess of long and short threads of many different

colours, been cut off and knotted going in various directions...although they do say someone who is good at tapestries will be equally as tidy at the back as the front... Wilder offers this as an explanation of why good people have to suffer in this life. God has a pattern into which all of our lives fit. His pattern requires that some lives be twisted, knotted, or cut short, while others extend to impressive lengths not because one thread is more deserving than the other, but simply because the pattern requires it. Really what he is saying God has a plan and each knot and twist is part of the great design that adds up to his work of art.

We do get people saying to folk who have been heavily burdened, God does not send any burdens to us unless we can bear them...I think if someone had said that to my mother hours after watching our home burn down, she would have slapped them so hard... I have known people to be so heavily burdened they have broken with the strain...and so I do not believe this to be true.

It is a really hard question to ask ourselves why does bad things happen to good people...for I do not believe God wishes us to suffer. We must recognise that throughout the bible, especially the O T, we hear about suffering and God today when I think about the suffering of the world, I wonder how much we are part of the troubles...for there can be explanations for much...my childhood home burnt down because of an electrical fault, it was not God who did this because we were able to bear the burden. I remember hearing someone, so grief stricken, saying to the minister I hate your God for doing this...

I can only talk about myself, how I try to manage my life with the strains and stresses of life brings, I turn to God asking for strength and comfort, and I have received this and I believed that whatever takes place on earth in my life, however lovely or horrid, in the next, all will be good and so different to this earthly existence. It's about putting my faith and hope in God for none of us know about what it will be like in eternity.

I personally do not believe that God causes bad things to happen. He does not decide who is going to be disabled because of a terrorist attack, we do not receive cancer from him, the natural disasters, pandemics, the evils some people do towards others it's not God's hand in this....Instead he is there to help us, he is the loving parent who will pick up the pieces as we turn to him in tears...He is the one who can enable us to move forward. What can stop this is our thoughts of blaming God or actually feeling guilty and blaming ourselves...God does not

wish you not to be happy... There are many situations which take place which we can reflect on and work out actually why it happened, and the majority of the times can be put down to human failure...yet we blame God, why have you allowed this to happen...to me.

We should trust in the Lord as we consider daily news, and seek to discern His will and purposes. We must ask for His wisdom to see events in the world around us and in our own personal lives from an eternal perspective (Psalm 33:9-11). Trusting in God will mean that if our hopes are fulfilled, they will not distract us from Him. Equally, trusting Him will mean that if our hopes are deferred, they will not make our hearts sick. We must remind ourselves continually that our God is all-powerful, all-knowing and all-loving. Although we may wish to blame him, as it's so easy to do so, for at times we need someone to blame, His shoulders are broad and he can take it...For ourselves to be able to move forward from a dreaded event I believe one of the best ways to do so is to turn to God and put our trust in him...Why does bad things happen to good people we do not know, I am reminded of the cancer patient being asked you must be angry to be diagnosed with your tumour...and the answer was why not me, I am no more special than the next person....

In the name of the Father Son and Holy Spirit Amen.

Next week on our Lenten journey I shall speak about the man named Job .

Secret Garden - Hymn To Hope

Youtube- Secret Garden - Hymn To Hope (Live from Lillehammer / 1999)

34,683 views

•20 May 2020

6936SHARESAVE



[Secret Garden - Official](#)

Music video by Secret Garden performing Hymn To Hope (Live from Lillehammer / 1999). © 1999 Universal Music A/S

Me & My
Miscellaneous
Secret Garden
You will find the answer

In my secret garden
You can find the answer
Of energy and mystery
For your own heart
In my secret garden
You can find the answer
Of energy and mystery
For your own heart

You will see what you like to see
In the land of mystery
Don't think about terrible days
Only you and me in this crazy place
Be happy and enjoy yourself
Come on relax to this experimental sex
Feel my body smell my tears
Let`s have fun in the sun of our love

Looking back on the wasted years
Endless crying helpless tears
Memories, shadows on the wall
It's the game of rise and fall
Who's the one by my side
When emotions come out at night
Feel my body smell my tears
Let`s have fun in the sun of our love

You will find the answer

Right hand of fellowship



**I am leaving with you a gift, peace of mind and heart. John 14;17
Peace be with you.**



Hello my dear friend, how are you?

Intercession Prayer

Dear God, we look out at the world and we see so much beauty, around us, people being helpful and caring, your love flowing through your creation like a river seen in a majestic garden...and we stand in awe of such magnificence...yet there are times when we see things we do not like, ugliness, unkindness, people being hateful towards others, acts of vengeance and hostility and we wonder where is the love that you give so freely, yet some seem to turn a blind eye to. Lord in your world there is good and then there is bad. We see people who are happy and content, smiling and laughing with life, making the most of what they have, while there are others who cry, who are miserable, and wish not to endure anymore pain. And so, we ask why is it that some are happy with life while others are so unhappy. Lord we pray not simply for those who are in need we think about everyone for we all live under your skies, for you created us all. We cannot mention each person and need. Lord God, as we bring our prayers too you, we think about those who know only to well what it is to live in pain...we pray for those who fighting to live an ordinary life, for they wish to live in peace, to be happy with the world...yet inside they're in turmoil... we pray for those who hold on to the past, because of fear or insecurity and are unable to let go of what is harming them... We pray for those who go after new things, those who want peace at any price, those who forget that reconciliation is often painful, and those who forget that God is the source of all peace. We pray for ourselves., Make us receptive to listen to your word, eager to act upon it, and faithful to the ministry that you call us to follow. In Silence O God, we pray for what we wish you to hear **Silence**.....

Help each and every one of us to live our lives in a way that is Godly, where your spirit has descended upon our hearts and we are happy with each blessing, nourish us when we need food, strengthen us when we feel weak, and bring comfort to all who cannot settle and are feeling distressed. Lord God, may we hear your words, Behold I make all things new. And now from our homes, bind us together Lord as we say the words of Jesus...

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us

not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever. Amen



Crown him with many crowns

Youtube- Crown him with many crowns Hymn - Westminster Abbey (with lyrics)
•26 Feb 2019



[yes](#)

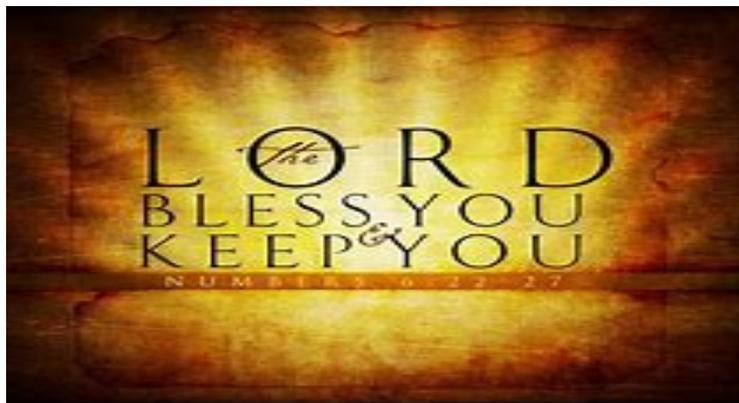
This is the hymn, 'Crown him with many crowns', written by Matthew Bridges (1800-94) and set to the hymn tune, DIADEMATA, composed by George Elvey (1816-93). It was sung at the Commonwealth Day Service at Westminster Abbey on Monday 13th March 2017. Sung by the Choir of Westminster Abbey. The hymn was arranged by James O'Donnell, the Director of Music at the Abbey. It was sung at the Commonwealth Day Service at Westminster Abbey on Monday 13th March 2017. Sung by the Choir of Westminster Abbey. The hymn was arranged by James O'Donnell, the Director of Music at the Abbey.

1 Crown him with many crowns,
the Lamb upon his throne.
Hark! how the heavenly anthem drowns
all music but its own.
Awake, my soul, and sing
of him who died for thee,
and hail him as thy matchless king
through all eternity.

2 Crown him the Lord of life,
 who triumphed o'er the grave,
 and rose victorious in the strife
 for those he came to save;
 his glories now we sing
 who died and rose on high,
 who died eternal life to bring,
 and lives that death may die.

3 Crown him the Lord of love;
 behold his hands and side,
 rich wounds, yet visible above,
 in beauty glorified;
 no angels in the sky
 can fully bear that sight,
 but downward bends their burning eye
 at mysteries so bright.

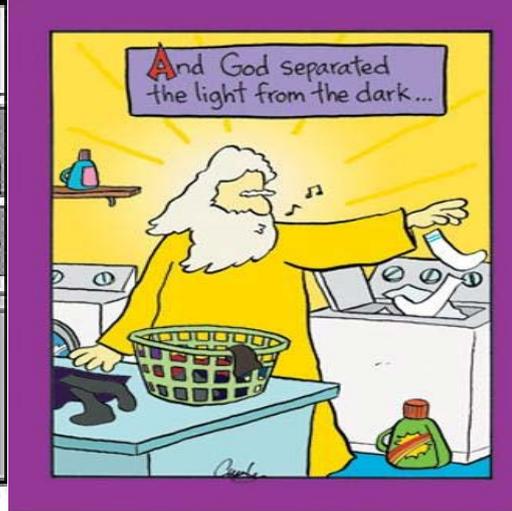
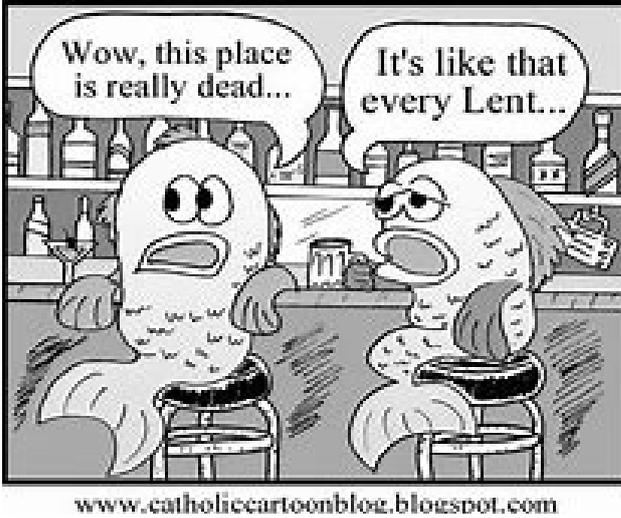
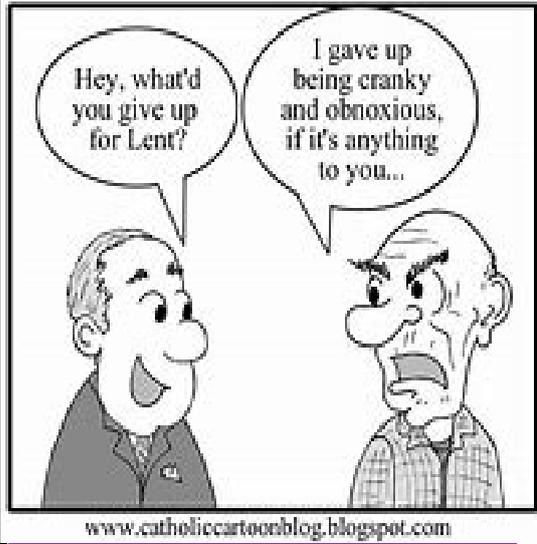
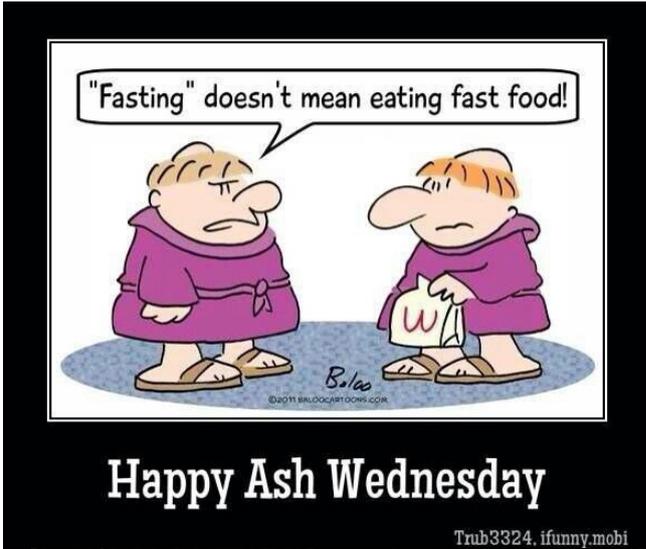
4 Crown him the Lord of years,
 the potentate of time,
 creator of the rolling spheres,
 ineffably sublime.
 All hail, Redeemer, hail!
 for thou hast died for me;
 thy praise shall never, never fail
 throughout eternity.



Benediction

Grace, mercy, and peace will be with us, from God the Father and from Jesus Christ the Father's Son, in truth and love. (2 John 3)

Three-fold -Amen
Joke time



"Tell me about it—last night I ate a whole sleeve of Communion wafers."

DO YOU WANT TO FAST THIS LENT? ~ POPE FRANCIS

Fast from hurting words and say kind words.

Fast from sadness and be filled with gratitude.

Fast from anger and be filled with patience.

Fast from pessimism and be filled with hope.

Fast from worries and trust in God. Fast from complaints
and contemplate simplicity.

Fast from pressures and be prayerful.

Fast from bitterness and fill you heart with joy.

Fast from selfishness and be compassionate to others

Fast from grudges and be reconciled.

There are names of sixteen (16) books of the bible hidden in the paragraph below. A preacher found 15 books in twenty minutes; it took him 3 weeks just to find the 16th one, HAVE FUN!

I once made a remark about the hidden books of the Bible. A certain luke, kept people looking so hard for facts, and for others, it was a revelation. Some were in a jam, especially since the names of the books were not capitalized. But the truth finally struck home to numbers of our readers. To others it was a job. We want it to be a most fascinating little moment for you. Yes, there will be some really easy ones to spot. Others may require judges to help find them. I will be quickly admit it usually takes a minister to find one of them, and there will be loud lamentations when it is found. A little lady says she brews a cup of tea so she can concentrate better. See how well compete. Relax now, for there really are sixteen books of the Bible in this paragraph.

Enjoy the fun now and find the 16 Books!

March

Monday 1st

He was born of a caring relationship. Legend has his abandoned mother giving birth to him on a rocky beach in a thunderstorm.

But, despite not being born of love, he still spread the message of Gods love all across Wales, founding a monastery and becoming an Archbishop in the process.

How?

Well, St David had no technology to rely on (although a hill did, supposedly, raise him up so more people could see and hear him). But his message was one people could appreciate and pass on.

David, or Dew Sant, as he is now known, taught simplicity in faith a focus on doing the little things properly, as you would in the presence of God,

Can you imagine the difference it would make if we took that sort of care with the details of our own lives?

On St David's Day (and on every other day) we might all benefit from following the example of Wales patron Saints.

The friendship book 2021)

