

FUTURES IMAGINED

Dear Friends,

It isn't really surprising that at times we get pulled down by the events of life - either in the world at large or in our own personal lives. Life seems to have the capacity to change almost from one moment to the next. One minute we feel like we can face anything; the next we can find ourselves wondering how we are going to get through the day in one piece. So much of our society and civilization is built to deal with these swings. We invest in the military... just in case; our financial markets swing with the almost emotional analysis of how we are collectively fairing. Our human world is too often the reality formed from futures imagined and realised by our own fears and doubts.

SWINGS OF CIRCUMSTANCE

In the accounts of the passion and resurrection of Jesus, we see the disciples living through the most intense swings of circumstance. One day they are walking through cheering crowds following their Messiah - a definite high as they enjoy the popularity and joyful cries of those lining the streets - they are going to be famous and powerful!

A few days later they are fleeing from Jesus' side to avoid soldiers and officials - they are going to be outlaws and punished. They see



their teacher and friend killed - only to see him a few days later raised to life and among them.

And even in the space of a few minutes the atmosphere can switch completely. One moment they are gathering to enjoy the Passover together, knowing the familiarity and pattern of the commemoration of their people's deliverance by the hand of God; the next Jesus is changing everything... washing their feet, talking about his body being broken for them.

Yet through all of these events, we are given the picture of Jesus as someone completely in control. He possesses a clarity of perspective and purpose in the path he walks, in the Father's will, that empowers him to see each moment for what it is and to be exactly who he needs to be within it. Even in the garden of Gethsemane, when he is resolving his will to face the suffering at the hands of those coming to arrest him, he knows what to do... to pray, to express the intensity of his feelings and somehow, to submit them to his desire to walk the path laid down for him.

CLARITY... TRUST...

This resolve, this clarity when all around him appears chaotic and fearful, is the fruit of trust. Of faith. Not only that he understands who he is and what he is to do, but that all he is and all he is to do is in the hands of his loving Father in Heaven. It is love, despite what the circumstances look like, that holds him and carries him.

This love is shocking in the events that unfold around him. This love does not condemn but seeks to save those who hurt him; this love releases in his heart forgiveness and not retaliation; this love strengthens those around him as they look on him with despair; this love, ultimately, defeats evil and death as nothing is

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able to hold him or limit him. A constant, hopeful, self-giving love... untouchable and unshakeable.

As events unfold, the disciples will begin to show this same love in their own lives. When the resurrected Jesus stands in their midst, they see with their own eyes that the love that calls them and underpins their lives is completely indestructible. Stronger than death.

They see that their own turbulent drives of fight or flight are unnecessary as they stand on the rock that is their risen Lord. Their lives, their eternal lives are in his hands and that there is no more wonderful and secure place to be - even through the trials and tribulations of their own that they face - than sharing the path that he walked.

They had looked with their own eyes literally upon death defeated in the risen body of the Lord Jesus Christ; they had heard with their own ears that this is their future. They had received from him the same Spirit to draw them into this resurrection life and share this great mystery revealed - the very purpose and desire of God for all his people.

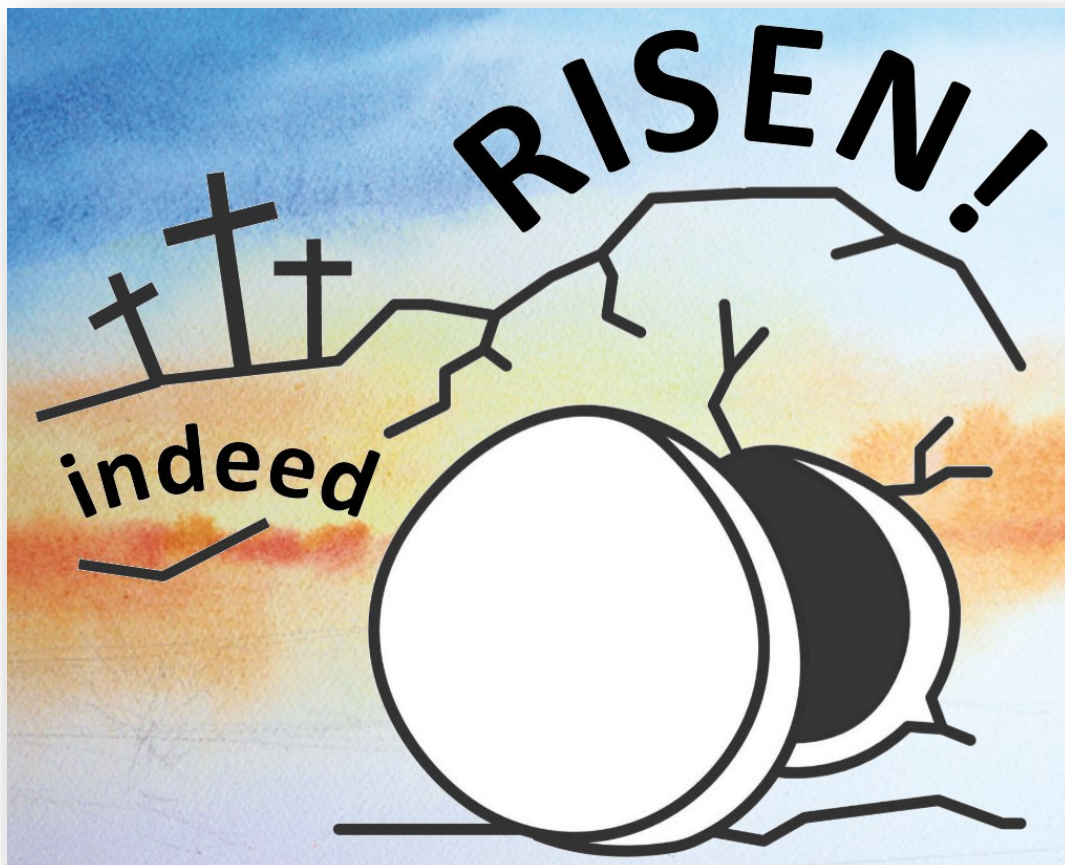
Well, there have been getting on for nearly 2,000 Easters since that day of the resurrection. Throughout the centuries, cultures and civilisations have come and gone... each, no doubt, feeling that in their time they were there to stay. Each with its armies and its wealth aiming to ride the storms and uncertainties of worldly power and fear. And through each of those human worlds, the truth passed from generation to generation unchanged. One Spirit has given eternal, hidden life to those with eyes to see and ears to hear. One love, untouchable and unshakeable, has drawn uncountable millions, forgiven and re-born, into the resurrection life of the kingdom of God.

We too, are called to walk his sure and certain path of love.

He is risen. He is risen indeed. Alleluia.

With every blessing,

Jules.



LEFKADA ... OPPORTUNITIES

Along came the opportunity to go to Lefkada on Friday the 10th March, to see Jackie Dallos who is our Reader and also the charity show that she choreographs for. So quite excitedly

I got the ferry and after a pleasant relaxing bus journey arrived just after 2pm to be met by Jackie. Chat, chat, chat and then it was time for her to go off to work and return back home at 5pm again and packing stuff in the car, off we go to get ready for the show, which is held at the Vliho Yacht Club.

The show is performed by the NIVADS. The "Nidri Very Amateur Dramatic Society", director Philomena, formed in 2008. It's a real fun thing which also supports local charities. This year's event was "Good Vibrations" and ran for 6 nights over 2 weeks. Tickets included Dinner, and I sat on a table with Jackie's husband Spiro, Jane and others. 'The Dallos Diamond Dancers' were amazing, the singers captured the eras and the sketches, oh, so funny. The wonderful thing was that those who have been going through tough times or are disabled in some way were cleverly written into the script. So, it was good to have the opportunity to chat to some of Jackie's group, who we sometimes see on zoom with us, and others we pray for really enjoying themselves.



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On Saturday we went for a walk round town and then to Ag. Ioannis, a beautiful little church near a beach, where we took the opportunity to light candles and pray for each other. Back home, lunch and then time to go off to the show again.

When we ask God for opportunities for His Kingdom, he surely supplies them in most surprising ways. Sunday morning there was a charity walk organized by "Faros" who collect for the needy on the island and were also walking in mourning for the train crash on the Greek mainland. It was about the same time as HTC's Service, which we didn't want to miss.



So, off we set, intending to join online sharing the earphones on Jackie's phone as we walked. Due to my hearing this didn't work and on inspiration Jackie decided to go back home and get her little purple speaker. So, during our walk HTC's Service was on full volume for all to hear! We stopped at the Faros desk and sat down just as Jules's sermon came on, and one lady came over and stood with us to listen the whole way through.

All too quickly it was time to get the bus and ferry back to Corfu. Jackie dropped me off the bus station.

That evening Jackie was taking a service in the conference rooms the mayor has kindly given to use. Somewhere during that busy time, she amazingly got time to prepare for this. It's so obvious that Jackie is really appreciated on the island. How Great is our God!

Maybe we could get a group together sometime for a visit.

Lorraine

PULSE PRAYERS



Heavenly Father,

Thank you for your goodness and your grace,
your presence in our lives and for your steadfast faithfulness.

We praise you for the work already accomplished for Café Logos and ask you to provide for the completion of the project, by bringing willing hands and hearts to finish the final details. Use the café for your glory and help us to be a blessing to all of those who come through its doors.

We pray for the Annual General Meeting on April 21st. Show us your direction and give us your wisdom as we move forward as a body of Christ here in Corfu.

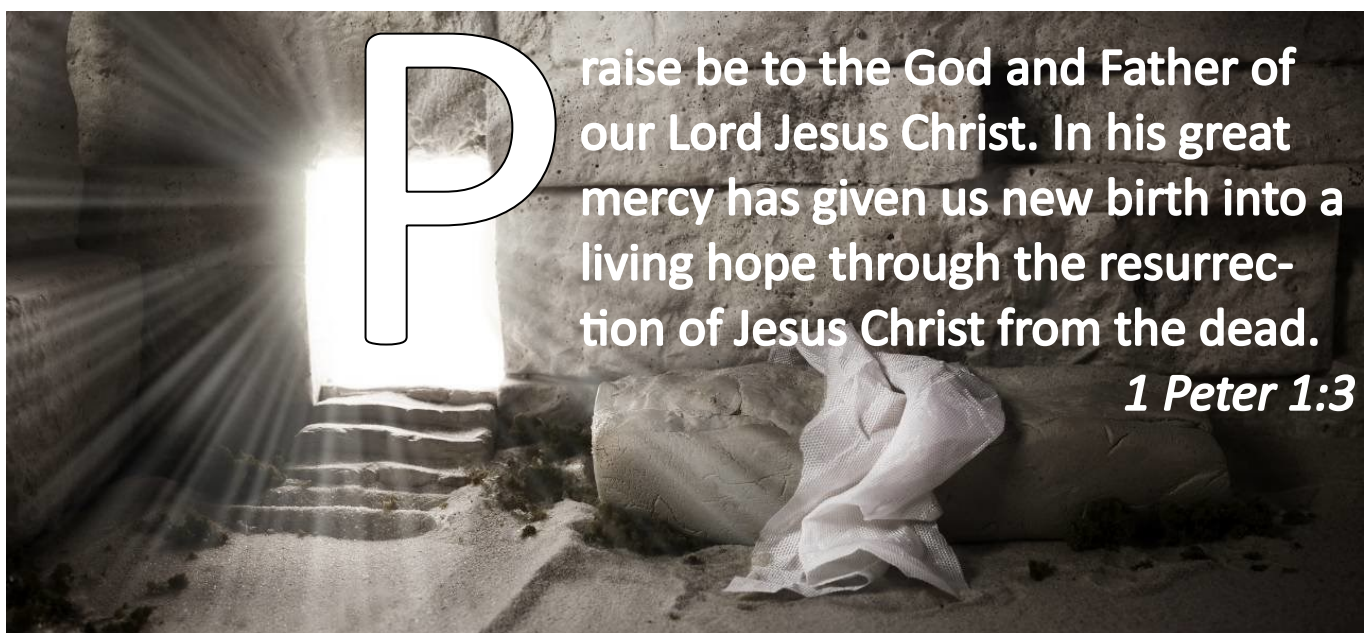
We thank you for Jackie's ministry in Lefkada and those who support her. We pray for the development of a committed team of helpers.

We pray for comfort and healing for all of those involved in the train disaster at Tempì. Uphold the grieving and restore the injured and give them your strength as they move forward.

We continue to pray for peace in Ukraine and for solace and provision for its refugees. Lord, may the end to this conflict be not far off. We also pray for the people of Yemen and for Sabina and her mission there.

Lord, we lift to you all those who need your healing. Some, indeed, need a miracle, so we look to you, the miracle maker, to heal and restore them. In particular, we pray for the children...Nellie, Charlie, Jesse, Piper, Gracie Ben and Yianni.

Father, in your mercy, hear these our prayers, for we ask them in the mighty name of Jesus.
Amen



Praise be to the God and Father of
our Lord Jesus Christ. In his great
mercy has given us new birth into a
living hope through the resurrec-
tion of Jesus Christ from the dead.

1 Peter 1:3

Sabina's Kitchen Update

Greetings to all from Holy Trinity Church in Corfu,

Month of Ramadan started yesterday 23rd March. We are fasting to remember the poor, and families from our charity kitchen ask me to tell you that they will be praying specially for all of you.

The school year finished on 20th March, so we were able to provide sandwiches for public school for entire school year. We are very grateful for that. Of course our charity kitchen is still cooking meals daily for families in need.

There was news a few months ago about lifting up blockade, opening all airports, basically stopping the war for good. We were so happy, believing and hoping only for the best. But unfortunately nothing happened and people are starting to be sad, depressed and exhausted. 26th March we will finish eight years of war and starting the ninth !!!

At the end I would like to thank you so much for your generous and continuous help. It means really a lot to all in need here. And we are all grateful to you. **Sabina**



Pavla received the above letter from Sabina.

If you like to see more about the situation in Yemen click below to see a Sky News (UK) report.

Warning: article contains distressing content

[CLICK HERE](#)



oet's corner

We've just finished our course on forgiveness and Violetta Teetor has written some amazing poetry - one for each session.

With Violetta's permission we're going to reproduce them for you in Pulse.

Here's the first one...

Conundrum

*When your son is taunted
pushed, kicked when he's already down.
When your daughter's cries
of 'stop!'
exacerbate the urge.
When your friend's
effeminate gesture
rewards him with
a punch in his beautiful face.
When what you say
is misconstrued
and bites you
in a barrage of ugly words.*

*The hurt
the injury
the life-long suffering,
And all it takes is a simple phrase?*

*'I forgive you'
you want to scream
you want to shout
you want the world to know
that this is not right.*

*'I forgive you'
let it rip
let it be said
give me a megaphone
to preach
the injustice of it all.*

*'I forgive you'
with a death
that should have been yours
to pay for the myriad
transgressions,
a death so gruesome
so cruel
so undeserved.
We cast our eyes
on your broken body
and wait for our doubts,
our confusion
our self-righteous opinions
to be redeemed
clarified
explained
in the patience of time.*



World Day of Prayer

**I have heard about
your faith**

3 March 2023 – Taiwan

A women led, global, ecumenical movement 2nd March 2023, at the Catholic Cathedral, Corfu Town



The service booklets didn't arrive from the UK , they got held at Athens airport & then returned to the UK!

So, the service was shown on Power-Point with sheets for the readers in Greek & English.

The Safe Space

Have you recently lost someone you love? Are you feeling isolated or anxious? Does the world seem overwhelming and scary since the pandemic? Is your mental well-being languishing or your self-esteem low? Then perhaps it would be beneficial to spend an hour in the "Safe Space".

The Safe Space is an informal Christian counseling setting where you can receive one-to-one confidential on-line space to explore your feelings

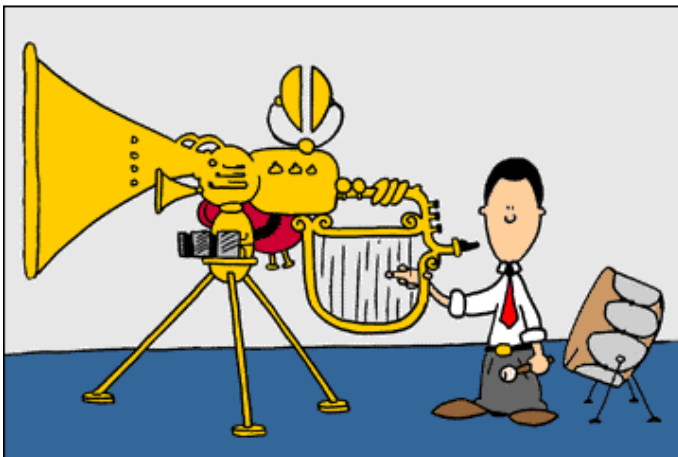


To book an appointment:

email Trish: trishmariawilson@gmail.com or phone: 0030 6986644271

<https://sites.google.com/view/trish-wilson-christian-counsel/home>

Cartoons (with thanks to Reverendfun.com)



04-24-2001

IAN HAD EVERY INTENTION OF MAKING
SURE THAT HIS SPECIAL MUSIC WAS VERY
SPECIAL INDEED



(See John 20:1-18)

04-16-2001

I'M SORRY MAAM, THE RESURRECTION OF
JESUS WAS A MIRACLE, NOT A SERVICE OF
THIS CEMETERY

WHAT'S ON at HTC

Keep up to date with what's on at Holy Trinity Corfu by visiting our website calendar.

<http://holytrinitycorfu.bravesites.com/whats-on>

OR



Links



<https://europe.anglican.org/prayer-diary/prayer-diary>



<https://www.ics-uk.org/Pages/Category/prayer-diary>

The Agiot

<http://www.theagiot.com/>



<https://enimerosi.com/en>



https://www.facebook.com/groups/CorfuForum/?ref=group_header

We always welcome contributions to our publications; however, we will not publish any material which infringes copyright. When sending in items for inclusion please state your source and the name of the author.

We are happy to accept prayer requests for inclusion in Pulse or in the morning service. If you are requesting prayer for someone other than yourself please make sure you have their permission to be mentioned publicly.

*Please remember the submission **deadline for PULSE is 25th of each month**. Articles, news, information etc. received after this time may not be included and will be carried over to the next edition if appropriate. Thank you.*

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