



WORLD CHANGING NEWS

Dear Friends,

Well, for those who are not in Greece... we've nearly caught up with you! Easter festivities begin here on Saturday with Easter Eve and continue on Sunday as we celebrate the wonder of the Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. For those who know the pattern here in Greece, it's not going to be quite the same as usual. The processions are restrained to the churches; the pots will be broken - but without the crowds taking their lives into their own hands dodging 2 metre pots falling from the sky; there will no doubt be fireworks - but not the thousands packed into the park holding candles and waiting to hear the glorious news proclaimed by the priests and the musicians - He is Risen! And it will still be a very dangerous place to be a lamb - but the exodus to homes and villages has been curtailed.

But the Good News... the world-changing news remains the same. He is Risen!



For those of us who live in the truth and perspective of this transforming event, we capture within ourselves again the hope and that flows from it. Death - where is thy sting? The Way of grace affirmed. The Lordship of the Servant King proclaimed. The curtain torn in two and eternal life and fellowship with our Creator and Redeemer revealed. What a picture. What a hope!

REALITY OF LOSS

Yet even as I am writing this, we all know someone or we know someone who knows someone who is having to deal with the reality of the loss they have had to bear. The joy, if not the hope, feels out of reach. Death, it seems, may have lost its sting but the pain is still all too real. It is a strange time when we have to hold two such conflicting emotions side by side with ourselves. Thankfulness for the life we have been given in love, the new life within that sustains and renews us, while at the same time compassion demands we share the pain and suffering of the millions around the world who will be carrying the burden of this pandemic in their own lives. We raise our eyes at the complexities and restrictions yet we know they are nothing compared with the anxiety of securing care for the one you love or facing one's own mortality in the face of this unseen enemy.

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Yet we cannot deny either of these feelings. They are both necessary and neither cannot be released. To relinquish the hope in the face of suffering leads down a dangerous and dark road. We must walk another.

HOPE AND JOY

We remember Jesus in the garden looking at the hours ahead - seeing them for what they were. Awful beyond imagining. And yet "for the hope set before Him" he endured - and more than that - carried that perspective of hope with Him before His accusers and His tormentors. Hope powered His capacity for forgiveness and secured meaning even in the face of the mindless cruelty of those around Him. Jesus takes this hope and joy with Him as He walks the streets of Jerusalem carrying His unbearable burden and from it He is able to express compassion and concern for those around Him.



It may be that at times, we see the pictures, read the numbers that make it hard to accept that there is hope - and yet it is only hope that will ultimately release the com-

passion and love that will carry as many of us as possible through this time.

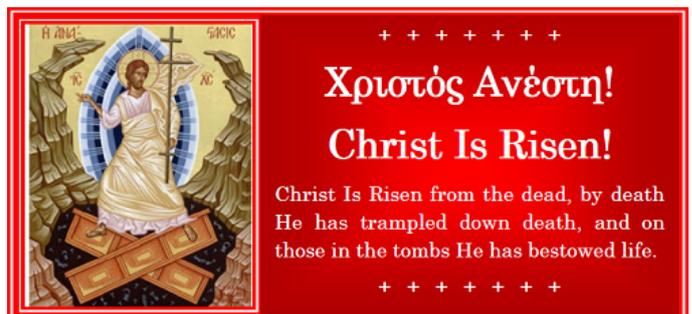
Jesus' resurrection is much more than a hopeful, happy ending - it's the new beginning that shows us that the end of this part of our story leads to something that gives all we have gone through meaning and purpose. Compassion in life. Hope in death. This is Jesus' walk through Good Friday to Easter morning and it is our walk too. Except, unlike Him, we do not have to walk it alone.

He is with us. He has done this for us so that He can be with us as we walk together. And He is with every person, every loving creation made in God's image is known and held. There will always be mystery in the experience of suffering and loss... something that we are unable to explain in words... the reality we experience can never be consoled or diminished by words. But His Presence, the One who has walked *before* us through suffering and death into resurrection life and now walks *with* us... His Presence has the power to transform; to hold the hope and the joy alongside the compassion and the pain. He has done it. For us.

He will show us how to do it too.

Christ is risen. He is risen indeed, Alleluia.

With every blessing in Christ, Jules.



Faith Odyssey

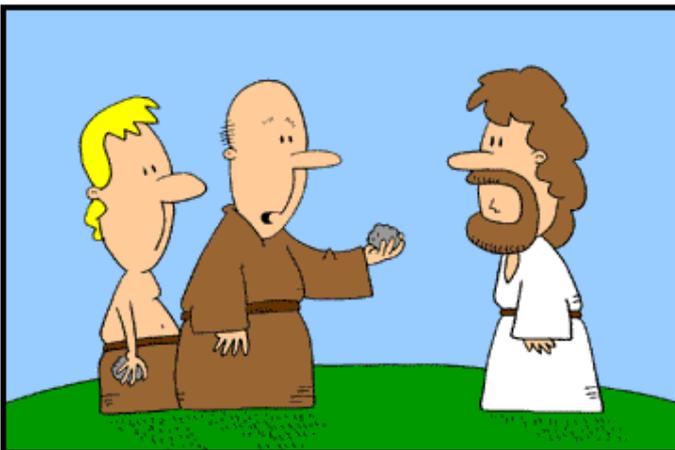


Some years ago, when Kathryn & I were on chaplain duties in Kerkyra, we went for a swim at a beautiful cove. I noticed an empty house above the beach. Some of the locals told me it was where Prince Philip had been born.

In the year 2000, the church members decided to write a book of testimonies and called it "Faith Odyssey". I sent a copy to Prince Philip and he wrote a 'thank you' in which he stated "I read the book with great interest" and added his one regret in life was that he had never been able to return to the place of his birth.

Stuart Broughton

Cartoons (with thanks to Reverendfun.com)



Thanks to Paul Gladney (See John 8:1-11) 06-03-1999

UMM JESUS ... WE WERE GOING TO SKIP SOME ROCKS AT THE POND BUT IT SEEMS YOU ARE THE ONLY ONE WHO CAN CAST THE FIRST STONE



Thanks to Mikel Rice (See Matthew 6:21) 06-04-1999

ARRRR ... THIS IS WHERE ME TREASURE IS, NOW WHERE DID I PUT ME HEART?

WHEN JESUS LOOKS...



When Jesus looks upon my life,
What picture does He see.
Does He see His own reflection,
Or does He just see me.
Does He see His likeness,
The product of His hand.
Or just another Christian,
Who never took a stand.
Does He see a child of God,
A child that He made free.
Living life to honour Him,
Or does He just see me.

What about the other folks,
I meet along the way.
Do I show them Jesus,
To brighten up their day.
When someone looks into my eyes,
Can they truly see.
That calm and gentle peace of God,
That dwells inside of me.
When I reach out and shake a hand,
Is He right there in my grip.
Can they feel that strength from God,
That steadies when I slip.
When folks are in my presence,
Do they know His Spirit's there.
Can they see that He's the one,
Who guides me everywhere.

When other people think of me,
What is on their mind.
Do they think of Jesus Christ,
So gentle and so kind.
I try to be like Jesus,
Every single day.
Spreading love and kindness,
All along my way.
I'm afraid that I have failed,
I could not pass the test.
Deep inside my heart I know,
I haven't done my best.

I have had to fight my flesh,
Since the day that I was born.
It's always causing trouble,
And being such a thorn.
That's why His Spirit dwells in me,
He's helping me to learn.
In every situation,
Where I need to turn.
He knew I'd never pass the test,
That's why He took my place.
He gave His life to save my soul,
He suffered my disgrace.

Now I try to be like Him,
I must represent Him well.
So other folks will want His gift,
And turn their backs on hell.
Other folks should see the joy,
That Christ has given me.
They should want to have it too,
Especially since it's free.
They should begin to ask me,
What is it they must do.
Just how it is they go about,
Getting Jesus too.
Then I get to tell them,
This wondrous gift is free.
It only takes a humble heart,
A prayer on bended knee.

Someday when I'm face to face,
With the Lord who made me free.
Will He see His own reflection,
Or will He just see me.

Chick Valasco

PULSE PRAYERS



Lord, we thank you for your church world-wide, and for all who make HTC the welcoming, hospitable place it is. Where the power and strength of your word may be experienced in our gatherings, and the grace and mercy of your love be shared by all.

“Give ear to my words,
O Lord, consider my
sighing. Listen to my
cry for help, my King
and my God, for to you I
pray.” Psalm 5 v 1-2



In celebration of Easter with our Orthodox brothers and sisters in Christ we remember once again the sacrifice of Your Son that we might have the redemption promised in your word. And in the resurrection, the promise of life eternal in You.

We call upon your blessings for the works of your faithful servants;

- * Jules and Trish,
- * Richard Bromley, & I.C.S.
- * Our churchwardens
- * Church musicians and singers
- * Peter, and all who handle the technical aspects of our time on zoom.
- * Our brothers and sisters in Christ who increase the reach of HTC by sharing God’s vision, promises and love, beyond the walls of our building.

We pray for the congregations of Paxos and Lefkada, as we slowly come out of lockdown help us to help those around us and magnify your love in our communities.

Lord God, journey with us, that we may introduce You to others on the road of life. Keep us firm in our faith yet gentle in its expression.

Heavenly Father, be the hope in our hearts that lifts us beyond our circumstances. Be the joy we experience in witnessing the works of your hands. In your creation, the world, the seas and skies that surround us and in all living things. Build our faith, like a pathway before us, gently leading us ever closer to you and each other. That we might proclaim your word and sing your praises forever. Be the expression of our souls, as we show compassion for people and places we see to be in need. Help us to act upon all Your teachings to enable us to deliver your love even in the most difficult places. We remember especially Sabina and her work in Yemen.

“You guide me with your counsel, and afterwards you will take me into glory” Psalm 73:24

PULSE PRAYERS



Look favorably on projects, personal and corporate that seek to use our talents, help others and to glorify Your name, we think especially of the Logos café and its part in the ongoing history and growth of HTC.

We thank you for our prayer warriors who kneel before you in intercession for others. We pray that in your great mercy you will use their voices to bring about Your will.

We pray for those we know and who have yet to meet who need your merciful and gracious healing. Your strength in difficult times, your wisdom in daily choices, and above all the knowledge of Your love.

We thank you for the blessings of the work that created the Easter catalogue. May each item purchased be a blessing for the buyer, as its proceeds bless the charities it supports. Lord we pray for your watchful eye and guiding hand on the AGM, confident that You will reveal to those present the glory of things accomplished, the anticipation of new plans to come and the patience for those that are pending. May they all be fruitful in your name and perfect time.

As we venture into a different kind of tourist season protect our homes, families and business's as they endeavor to provide for our visitors. May your protection cover us all in these difficult times.

May our faith lead us forward in the weeks ahead, making time to be with You as You are with us, yesterday, today and always. Amen .



'TOGETHER and APART'

We will continue to provide online 'Together and Apart' services, as well as the live Sunday service. There are also prayer meetings on Wednesday and Friday mornings. Please contact us, if you would like details of how to join us.

<https://sites.google.com/view/holytrinitycorfuonline/home>

Sabina's Kitchen Update

Finally, after almost a year, the registration of the charity was made in April. It was a lot of struggle and the ministry forced us to contribute with food packs that they can distribute to the most vulnerable ones and have a good image of helping people during Ramadan.... It was a form of bribery but we did it, thinking, it would help the hungry ones as well as help us to get our documents faster.

During Ramadan people come to get their food in the evening when it is dark, so as soon as this is over, I will send more pictures.

Thank you everybody for your support and prayers. I would so much like to meet you over zoom one day. I hope it will be possible but at the moment our internet is too slow.

Lots of love, Sabina

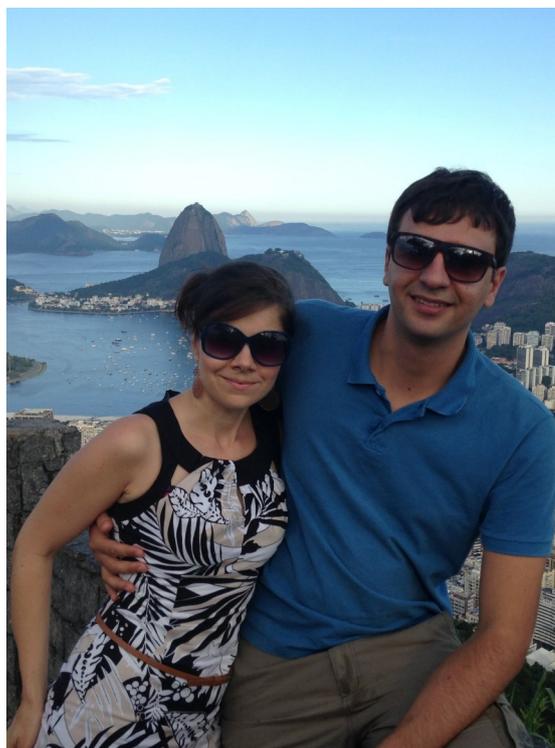


...now meet Radka...

Radka began to move across the world when she was twenty-years-old, and she hasn't stopped since. Radka was born in the Czech Republic, got her masters in the Netherlands and her first job with the United Nations (UN) in Yemen. After living in several other countries Radka finally settled in Brazil. How did you get there?

I am married to a Brazilian and I followed my husband to Brazil in 2015. First two years, we lived in Rio de Janeiro and then we moved to the capital city Brasília. Although Brasília is not a typical tourist destination, the city that was built in the shape of a plane has a fascinating architecture and for Latin America it is a relatively safe and organized city. Brasília is in the middle of the Brazilian savannah and the weather is amazing, the sun shines almost every day and for most of the year it is around 25 degrees.

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What do you do for living?

I work as a project coordinator for the UN Migration Agency. Latin America is currently experiencing one of the largest displacement crisis in the world due to ongoing political, human rights and socio-economic developments in Venezuela. Over 5 million Venezuelans are now living abroad, the vast majority in countries within Latin America and the Caribbean.

I have already worked for the same organization in Yemen and Egypt and I have been working on migration issues for over fifteen years, but even so, working in Brazil has taught me a lot.



You are one of the founders of the Czech NGO Pomuzu jak muzu, can you tell us how did you get involved?

For many years I worked in an area of humanitarian and development aid. My first working experience with the United Nations abroad brought me to Yemen. I lived in Yemen capital Sana'a, one of the most fascinating cities in the Arab world with its unique architecture, bustling souqs, and friendly inhabitants. That time, there was a big Czech community with regular gatherings and there I met with Sabina. Even though I left Yemen after one year, a piece of my heart stayed forever there.

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When the war and famine broke out in Yemen, I contacted Sabina to see if there is anything we could do together. Sabina had plenty of ideas and in 2017 we started our small project together. I raised money with my family and friends in the Czech Republic and Sabina was responsible for procurement and distribution of food packages for people in need.

The stories of our first beneficiaries were very touching and me and Sabina were encouraged to continue helping further, but this time with a bigger impact. Our friends Táňa and Šárka from my hometown Ostrava helped us and pulling our resources and talents together we founded the association Pomuzu jak muzu.

We have been fully operational since 2018 and thanks to the contributions that people send and with help of Sabina and her team, we have been running a kitchen in Yemen where we cook daily hot meals for 166 people (we focus mainly on women, children and seniors, because they are the most vulnerable).

Our work certainly breaks down the stereotypes of humanitarian aid, not only because instead of a strong man with a bag of rice (as most organizations portray humanitarian aid to the world), we have a warm and brave Sabina in Yemen, who together with her husband Khaled patiently arranges everything. Equally it was great to learn that so many Czechs and many people in Europe, including the wonderful community from Corfu are willing to help in a faraway country with such a complex humanitarian crisis.



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

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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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