

# NEWSLETTER EXTRAORDINARY EDITION VOLUME 2

Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful committed citizens can change the world: indeed it's the only thing that ever does. (Margaret Mead)



## PAUSE FOR THOUGHT

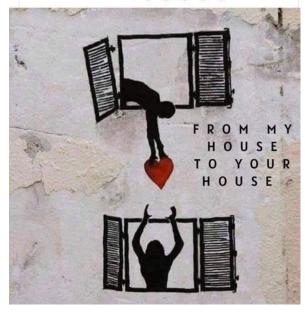
"It is a time of planetary disruption and great change. The future is uncertain, and our present moment is filled with the potential for great suffering-but also great love. The global spread of the coronavirus has revealed to all the true nature of humanity's interconnectedness; even as we isolate ourselves from each other, we do so in loving solidarity for the protection of society's most vulnerable people. There's a sense that we're all in this together-every continent, country, class, religion, race, age, or gender. We're all subject to this crisis. Suffering has an ability to pull you into oneness."



"Thanks to music, streamed live, bringing together millions of clasped hands everywhere in the world, we will hug this wounded Earth's pulsing heart."

Andrea Bocelli

Let's pass this around so everyone gets a little love today



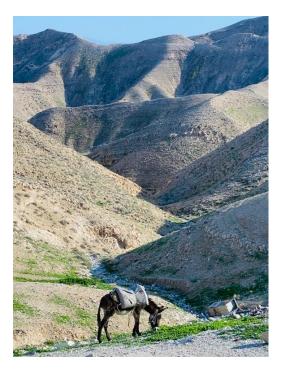
#### COMMUNITY NEWS

Thank you for so many messages of love and support over these last weeks.

We have all found new ways of being in touch and realising how much we need one another.

Along with the rest of you, we have been adapting, coping, being creative, struggling, hoping – all in unequal measure.

We lived through Holy Week in new ways - live streaming; radio; broadcasts; Zooming together; adapting the liturgies to suit the moment; realising afresh our need for community to celebrate and reflect together.



The Paschal Mystery is at the heart of our spirituality and we have lived it afresh this year in an Easter unlike any other we have ever known. Like the first followers of Jesus after the crucifixion, we have lived with the confusion, doubt, fear and even despair of these days at the height of the Covid-19 infection.

We too have dealt with the loneliness and grief that the disciples experienced, shared their fear as to what might happen next.

We have clung to our faith and hope that, as on that first Easter Sunday morning, life <u>can</u> be transformed; that we <u>can</u> get through these times of waiting and anxiety believing that this time <u>will</u> pass and that hope and goodness <u>will</u> prevail.



### ST AUGUSTINE

"Hope has two beautiful daughters; their names are Anger and Courage. Anger at the way things are, and Courage to see that they do not remain as they are."

#### KATHLEEN O'MEARA'S POEM, 'And People Stayed Home,' written in 1869, after the famine

And people stayed home and read books and listened and rested and exercised and made art and played and learned new ways of being and stopped and listened deeper someone meditated someone prayed someone danced someone met their shadow and people began to think differently and people healed and in the absence of people who lived in ignorant ways, dangerous, meaningless and heartless, even the earth began to heal and when the danger ended and people found each other grieved for the dead people and they made new choices and dreamed of new visions and created new ways of life and healed the earth completely just as they were healed themselves

# NOT EVERYTHING

SUN IS NOT CANCELLED SPRING IS NOT CANCELLED RELATIONSHIPS ARE NOT CANCELLED LOVE IS NOT CANCELLED READING IS NOT CANCELLED DEVOTION IS NOT CANCELLED MUSIC IS NOT CANCELLED IMAGINATION IS NOT CANCELLED KINDNESS IS NOT CANCELLED CONVERSATIONS ARE NOT CANCELLED HOPE IS NOT CANCELLED



