

The Saint Raphael Link

Some Periodic Ramblings of the Prior

APRIL 2019 (Issue 35)

Email: revgeoffreyrobinson@ntlworld.com / Tele: 07817 825624



Dear Members,

There were once two identical twin brothers who shared the same apartment together in New York. The first-born brother was honest, hard-working and a God-fearing man, but the younger twin was a thoroughly bad lot who was dishonest; a person who regularly took drugs and obtained money from people by extortion.

Most nights, the younger twin would come back to the apartment late, the worse for drink and drugs and always with a lot of cash. The elder twin spent hours trying to plead with his brother to amend his sinful ways, and to start and live a decent life. But the younger brother would have none of it, and would not listen to any sort of reason.

Then one night the younger brother returned home clutching a gun, and wearing blood-stained clothes. *"I killed him, I killed him"*, he stammered. Within a few minutes the apartment block was surrounded by police, and the twin brothers knew there was no escape. *"I didn't mean to kill him"* spluttered the younger brother, *"I don't want to die."*

By now, the police were hammering at the door. The older brother wasted no time; he quickly exchanged his clothes

with the blood-stained clothes of his killer brother. Then, breaking into the apartment, the police arrested him, and took him into custody.

Eventually the elder twin brother was tried and condemned to death for murder. He was executed and the younger brother lived. The first-born twin died to save his younger brother.

We don't have to think too deeply about this story of crime and death, to realise that it is basically a story of love.

In that same way, the story of the suffering and death of Jesus which we heard in the Passion narrative is also basically a story of love – God's love for us.

Now most of us would expect the younger brother to feel a deep sense of gratitude towards his elder brother, who gave his life out of love for him. You may think that perhaps the experience should have even made him turn a new leaf, and never go back to a life of crime. He would have been a most ungrateful and stupid man to have continued living a life which caused his brother's death. Perhaps the inevitable feelings of gratitude would make him keep the memory of his brother alive, by extending some love and care to those he previously treated with such contempt and extortion.

On this Sunday, when we focus on the Passion of the Lord, the Church celebrates the triumphant entry of Christ into Jerusalem in order to accomplish his Paschal Mystery. Today, is also the day when sacred scripture highlights the ordeal and humility of Christ. It is a day which is full of symbolism.

The green palm is a symbol of peace, as Isaiah reminds us: *“He shall be the prince, and king of peace”* (Isaiah 11: 1-9; 9:6). It is significant too, that in the Book of Zechariah (Zechariah 9:9) we can read: *“Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem! Behold, your king is coming to you; righteous and having salvation is he, humble and mounted on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of an ass.”*

But then finally; what about the crowd who symbolize both praise and denial. The same crowd who sang “Hosanna”, at our Lord’s entry into Jerusalem; could, only a few days later, be heard shouting: “Crucify him! Crucify him!”

God has high expectations from each one of us – gratitude strong enough to make us hate sin of every shade and colour; strong enough for us to stand up for what is right and just, and above all; strong enough for us to make us translate our love of God, into love for all His people.

Those are my goals for this Passiontide and beyond: How about you? Amen.

+*Geoffrey* – GRAND PRIOR



SICK: Beryl Anderton / Paul Shaw / Sheila Hogarth / Ruth Barr / Kathleen Roberts / Lesley Fudge / Thelma Thompson / Marlene Addy /

Tania Walker / Lidia Flemming / Paul Sheridan / Roy Howard / Albert Jones / Charlotte Park / Nicole Vendettuoli / Ivor MacFarlane / Shaun Humphries / Lucy Riding / Veronica Hawcroft / Amelia Radomski / Mary Flannigan / John & Mary Howard / Ida Simpson / Clarice Shaw / Tony Kirby / Sally Hayes / Nick Brooks / Bishop Gerard & Pam Crane / Ruth Moody & family / Brigitte Duffett / Norman Dutton, archbishop / Keith & Joan Warren / Eileen Duffy / John Langham / Marjorie Hooley / Pamela Masih (pronounced - Massey) / Harry Shaw / Derrick Hawkins Doreen

Morgan / Ian Weatherall / Lilian King / Benedicta Bocaoco / Magdi Abdel Sayed / Luish Sao / Rodrigo Miranda / Anne Stephen / William (Bill) Collier / Geoff Lamb / Ann Weatherall / Bev Chester / Roy Taylor / Chris McKenna / Barbara Lee / Maureen Harford / June Obersby / Hazel Smith / Vivienne Ainsworth / Pat & Johnny Williamson / Dave Johnson / Stacey & Dave parents of Max David (Stillborn child) / George Fitzwilliam / Mary Park.

Guess the Locations

1. Manchester Ship Canal
2. Liverpool RC Cathedral



Cook's Corner: HOT CROSS BUNS



INGREDIENTS

- 450g strong white flour
- 150ml hand-hot milk
- 75ml hand-hot water
- 1 large egg, beaten
- 1 level teaspoon fine salt
- 4 level teaspoons, easy bake yeast
- 3 level teaspoons ground mixed spice
- 1 level teaspoon ground cinnamon
- 50g golden caster sugar
- 110g currants (I like pinhead)
- 50g whole candied peel, chopped
- 50g spreadable butter
- For the crosses:
- 40g strong (or normal) plain flour

10g spreadable butter

For the glaze:

1 tablespoon granulated sugar

2 tablespoons of water

METHOD

First tip the flour into a large mixing bowl and add the salt, yeast, mixed spice and cinnamon then give it a good mix.

Add the caster sugar followed by the currants and candied peel then mix these dry ingredients together and make a well in the centre. Next add the butter and pour the hand-hot milk and the hand-hot water over the butter followed by the beaten egg. Now mix everything to a dough, starting with a spatula and finishing with your hands until it is all combined, evenly mixed and leaves the bowl clean. Add a spot more milk if it needs it.

Next cover the bowl with a polythene bag and leave it at room temperature to rise – it will take about 1½ hours to 2 hours to double its original volume. Then turn the dough out on to clean work surface (you shouldn't need any flour) and punch out the air. Now divide the mixture into twelve using a palette knife. Take one piece of the dough and shape it into a round then roll it between the fingers of each hand, keeping your hands flat, to form a fairly smooth round ball (this should only take about 10 seconds or so) then do the same with the remaining pieces of dough. Arrange them on the lined or greased baking sheet (allowing plenty of room for expansion). Leave them to rise once more inside a large, lightly greased polythene bag for 45 minutes to an hour, or again until about double the size.

Meanwhile, if you want to make dough crosses, put the flour into a bowl and rub in the butter. Add just enough cold water to form a dough then roll it out thinly on a lightly floured surface to an oblong about 12cm by 16cm then cut it into 24 strips.

Pre-heat the oven to 220°C, gas mark 7.

When the second rising is up, brush the strips with water, to make them stick, and make a cross on top of each bun trimming away any excess dough with a small knife.

Alternatively you can use a small sharp or serrated knife to score a cross in the top of each bun.

Bake the buns for 15 minutes near the centre of the oven. Then, while they're cooking make the glaze in a small saucepan by slowly melting together the sugar and 2 tablespoons of water over a gentle heat until the sugar granules have dissolved, and you have a clear syrup. As soon as the buns come out of the oven, brush them immediately with the glaze while they are still warm.

Then cool them on a wire rack.

GUESS THE LOCATIONS:



1.



2.

What is the Easter Bunny's favourite state capital?

Albunny, New York!

What would you get if you crossed the Easter Bunny with a famous French general?

Napoleon Bunnyparte!

Where did the Easter Bunny go to college?

Johns Hopkins!

Did you hear about the lady whose house
was infested with Easter eggs?
She had to call an eggs-terminator!

What is the Easter Bunny's favourite sport?
Basket-ball, of course!

Why was the Easter Bunny so upset?
He was having a bad hare day!

What is this mess in the frying pan?
Guess what, you can't fry a chocolate
chicken!"

What would you get if you crossed a skunk
with a type of Easter candy?
Smelly beans!

What is the Easter Bunny's favourite kind of
story?
A cotton tale!

Where does the Easter Bunny go when he
needs a new tail?
To a re-tail store!



EASTER

also called Resurrection Day and Pascha, is
a Christian holiday celebrating Jesus

Christ returning from the dead. Christians
believe that it is the holiest day in the year.

Easter is not held on the same date every
year. This is called a *moveable feast*. Western
churches, like the Roman Catholic Church,
use the Gregorian calendar, while Eastern
churches, like the Eastern Orthodox Church,
use the Julian calendar. Because of this, the
date of Easter celebrations is different for
these two types of churches even though the
way they calculate the date is similar.
In 2015 Easter was celebrated on April 5 for
both the Gregorian calendar and Julian
calendar. In 2019 Easter will be celebrated
on the 21st of April.

The word "Easter" is derived from *Eastra*, the
name of the ancient German Goddess of
Spring.^[1] Her festival occurred at the vernal
equinox. The French word for
Easter, *Pâques*, comes from the Greek word
for Passover, which is the Jewish holiday
celebrated at about the same time of the
year.



The Healing Teaching & Chivalric Order of St Raphael

www.orderofstaphael.org.uk