

Subject: Fwd: Message from Father Simon
From: Anglican Church <anglicanpollenca@gmail.com>
Date: 13/04/2020, 10:39
To: Anglican Church <anglicanpollenca@gmail.com>
BCC: kjgreenall@gmail.com

Subject: Message from Father Simon
To: Anglican Church <anglicanpollenca@gmail.com>

POLLENCA CHAPLAINCY NEWSLETTER No.1
Locum Chaplain - Canon Simon Stephens

Good Morning Everybody,
Even though we remain in the Pandemic Lockdown, may I wish each and everyone of you a glorious Easter Season - full of light, love and optimism.
In the Russian Orthodox Church, the Easter acclamation rings out loud and clear :

Alleluia! Christ is Risen from the dead! Alleluia! He has risen indeed. Alleluia!

May these joyful words be on our lips and in our hearts throughout this Wonderful Season!

Now as a family scattered across Pollenca, please can we say the Easter Collect together :

Lord of all life and power,
Who through the mighty resurrection of your Son
Overcame the old order of sin and death
To make all things new in Him.
Grant that we being dead to sin
And alive to you in Jesus Christ
May reign with Him in glory ;
To whom with you and the Holy Spirit
Be praise and honour, glory and might,
Now and in all eternity. Amen

Today we are beginning the forty days of Easter Pilgrimage. Now in the early Church, Easter was the season of Baptism. Certainly, one of the most joyful occasions of last Summer in St Andrews Pollenca was the baptism of young Jonah Mellon, his parents Sophie and Aaron were very anxious that he should begin his Christian 'adventure' in our little church. Assisted by our super Lay Reader, Vicky Pacey and supported by members of the congregation, we received young Jonah into Christ's Church through the waters of Holy Baptism. The family who are based in the North of England ask for your prayers ; and assure St Andrews of theirs!
Now as you will know, the Church celebrates Easter for 50 days ; 40 days between Easter and Ascension ; and then 10 more days looking forward to Pentecost and the Gift of the Holy Spirit.
Now I wonder how many of you who were baptised as adults can REMEMBER the name of the priest who baptised you ; and the place of your baptism. If you do, then why not email him today with your love and Easter Greetings. I was baptised at the age of 16 in Bath Abbey, and remember the service in an ancient side chapel, as if it was yesterday.
And of course, those of us who are privileged to be Godparents would do well to remember our solemn promises on behalf of our Godchildren! When did you last write to them - then please do so during the lovely Easter Season.

So the next 50 days are a wonderful opportunity to restore broken relationships and to grow in God's grace. Under the Pandemic Lockdown, life is not easy and there are so many unspoken fears and anxieties - but we must never cease to remember that those of us who worship at St Andrews Pollenca are 'Easter People' ; and those who live and work in our parish need to meet the Risen Christ in our words and deeds.

May your Easter Season and the lives of all those whom you love, be greatly blessed.

Finally, if I can assist you in any way, then please feel free to contact me via email : apokosar@gmail.com

With my warmest good wishes and God's many blessings,
Father Simon

