

Dean's Letter, 12 April 2020, Easter Day

Dear Cathedral family, Brothers and Sisters in Christ

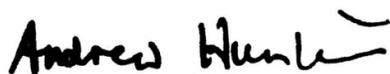
Easter Day is a day of thanksgiving for our deliverance, through the cross and resurrection, from the power of evil and sin and death. We proclaim that Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again; we give thanks "for Christ's glorious resurrection from the dead. By his death he has destroyed death, and by his rising again he has restored to us eternal life". Profound words in the face of coronavirus and the circumstances we live under, at this present time.

So what does this mean for you and me? For those who are ill, or who are dying? For families who have lost jobs and are sitting with no income? For school pupils and university students having to study online, with or without internet and computer access? For households where there is domestic abuse? For overcrowded communities? Certainly, we are living in tough times, and we cannot pretend otherwise. The shutdown has heightened the huge inequalities under which we live in this country. And with the shutdown now extended until the end of April, things are going to get harder for many.

Yet even in these few weeks, there have been some good things. People are stepping up with donations to the hungry. Our President and cabinet are giving a third of their salary to the Solidarity Fund. There is time at home to read, reflect, pray. Children and parents are interacting, playing, spending time together. People are coming together, networking, reaching out, looking with new eyes at what is happening around them and seeing how to help, to support, to provide, to assist. Many are turning to prayer and to God to find strength for each day. I know how much this has been important to me over these past weeks. There are many signs of life and hope and promise, in the midst of struggle and darkness and fear and despair.

We are resurrection people: our faith and trust is in Jesus Christ who died and rose again. Nothing can separate us from his love. Let's hold on in courage and hope as we journey into new life.

My love to you all

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Andrew Hunt" with a stylized flourish at the end.