



Peters Green News Sheet Issue No: 59

Sunday 18th April 2021

Passing on the News Luke 24 : 33 - 48

The death of Prince Phillip, not quite making his 100th birthday, is the sad news of this week.

I was with a friend, on a socially distanced walk, when she had the text message from another friend. For the rest of the day, every conversation mentioned that loss of someone who has been part of our national life for most of our lifetimes. News to passed on and a life to be talked over and appreciated.

At Perry Chapel, too, we have been looking back and forward. It was a real joy, after more than a year, to share a service in the chapel grounds at Easter. We were able to have our traditional 'Raising the Cross' open air service at 9 a.m. on Good Friday.

We could share with friends from Central and Kimpton and remember the many times in the past that we have raised the Perry cross. But especially to remember how, for us, Jesus died on the cross.

As our Good Friday poster reminds us:-

'Crown of thorns on His head,
Cross of wood on His back
You on His mind.'

But the wonderful news we celebrate is the Empty Cross. 'He is Risen' is the message the angels gave to the women at the tomb.

In our reading in Luke's gospel we see the passing on of this glorious news. The two from Emmaus had returned to tell of their meeting with Jesus; only to find the Eleven confirming, 'It is true! The Lord has risen and has appeared to Simon.' (Luke 24 : 34) Then, wonderfully, 'while they were still talking Jesus himself stood among them.'

What a great interruption! And it is true for us when we talk together and share the good news of the risen Christ we do experience His presence with us. Jesus greeted his disciples with, 'Peace be with you'. The traditional Jewish greeting of 'Shalom'. Here, it was more than a greeting, lovingly given; it was the peace of God, gained for us on the Cross.

As Jesus had explained to disciples:-

'Peace I leave you; my peace I give you. I do not give as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.' (John 14 : 27)

'Troubled' and 'afraid' very much sums up many of our lives over this past difficult year. We have also seen, on our daily news, many scenes of turmoil and violence from all over the world.

But it is the message of Christ's peace that we, like the disciples, are to pass on.

In that 'closed room' Jesus 'opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures'.
(Luke 24 : 45).

Some of us in 'lockdown' have had extra time to pray and study the Word of God. And, even non-techies' like me have seen different ways to share and learn from others of the challenges and encouragements we each have found.

The most important, as the disciples were reminded was:-

'The Christ will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day and repentance and forgiveness of sins will be preached to all nations.....You are my witnesses of these things.' (Luke 24 : 46-48)

They had the good news of forgiveness to preach to all and the peace and love of Jesus Christ to share.

God bless you,
Pam

My peace I give unto you;
It's a peace that the world cannot give
It's a peace that the world cannot understand
Peace to know, peace to live
My peace I give unto you

My love I give unto you;
It's a love that the world cannot give
It's a love that the world cannot understand
Love to know, love to live
My love I give unto you



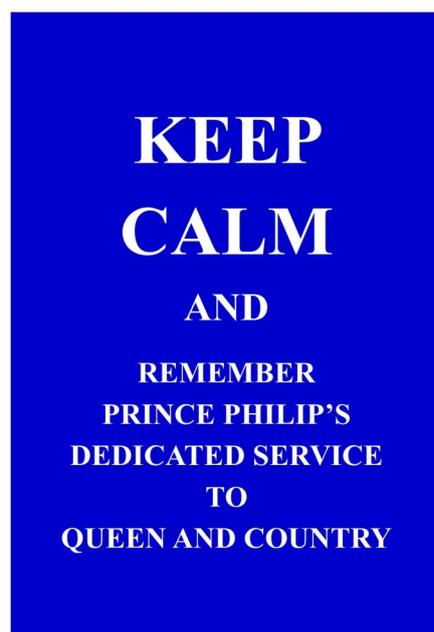
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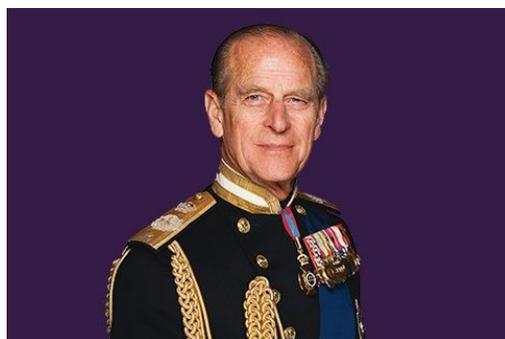
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His Royal Highness The Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh 1921 - 2021



Duty Loyalty Service

On Friday 9th April 2021 a notice was posted on the gates of Buckingham Palace which read:

‘It is with deep sorrow that Her Majesty The Queen announces the death of her beloved husband,
His Royal Highness The Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh.

His Royal Highness passed away peacefully this morning at Windsor Castle.

The Royal Family join people around the world in mourning his loss’

The Dukes long life of ninety nine years ended after seventy three years of marriage to the Queen and a life of Duty, Loyalty, and Service to Queen and Country. Her Majesty described Philip as her ‘strength and stay’.

When Philip married the Queen on November 20 1947 he had already served in the Royal Navy with distinction. After officer training at the Royal Naval College, Dartmouth, he went on to see active service in World War II during the Battle of the Atlantic, African and Italian theatres, the Burma Campaign, and in the Pacific. He was awarded a Mention in Despatches for his action during the Battle of Matapan, and was the youngest First Lieutenant in the war.

An excellent officer it was expected that he would continue with his Navy service but sacrificed his career when Princess Elizabeth became Queen. As well as loyally supporting the Queen, and attending hundreds of official engagements in a year on behalf of the Royal Household, he also served as President of the World Wildlife Fund, was involved in the National Playing Fields Association, and one of his finest legacies the Duke of Edinburgh’s Award scheme.

To mark his 90th birthday Her Majesty conferred the title and office of Lord High Admiral on Philip.

On Saturday 10th April 2021 Gun Salutes were made around the UK, Gibraltar, ships at sea, and in Commonwealth countries. One round was fired in salute every minute for 41 minutes. The guns fired by the The King’s Troop Royal Horse Artillery fired the same guns that were fired for Her Majesty The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh’s Wedding in 1947.

Many tributes from around the world have been paid to Philip including from Justin Welby, the Archbishop of Canterbury, who said Philip ‘consistently put the interests of others ahead of his own and, in so doing, provided an outstanding example of Christian service’.

With the loss of her beloved husband ask God that the prayers and condolences of her people will help ease the Queen through this difficult time and to grant her strength for the days ahead, and may Jesus uphold her in His arms.