

Reflection from Fr. Colm on Easter Friday

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Hi everybody I hope you're okay, bit of a dull overcast Friday morning. perhaps our sense of optimism isn't lifted by the news that we are in for another three weeks of lockdown. This could go into June we're told. However, it seems statistically most of the British public are in favour of lockdown if it is to eradicate this virus so let's go with it.

Fridays of course traditionally are the time when we think of abstaining from meat, eating fish, and growing up in the Catholic tradition that I did and most of you also especially from the older generation we remember the absolute commitment to eating fish on a Friday. For myself Thursday night was the great call from certainly our mother that we were going out to Howth to see Jimmy. Howth is a fishing pier north of Dublin, it's a beautiful place and Jimmy was a guy named Jimmy Ricard, and Jimmy sold fish on Howth pier.

On arrival there you'd hear the sputtering engines of the trawlers coming in, the very singular personalities of the fishermen. Even then, I'm not sure how much now, but certainly then there was an element of superstition within the fishing community many of whom would purposely avoid learning how to swim, would avoid any lifejackets I think that's all changed now, I hope. However, this was due out of respect and regard and at times fear, great fear and dread of the power of the sea.

I wonder was Peter like that. Was he of that kind of mentality? Did he know how to swim? Certainly, would not have had a lifejacket, we're told in the Gospel today that he pegged off everything in order to jump in to meet Jesus who was beckoning him. And of course this great symbolism of the risen Christ in the presence of a community that is utterly shattered they've no past, they've no future they're caught in the now and it's into that now that Jesus comes that's the now of today for you and for me that Jesus comes.

Let us continue to support, pray and phone. Email, text, whatever each other, okay? Bye.