

Tony Thinking Aloud li

Easter Eggs and Hot Cross Buns are everywhere just now. The season attracts many symbols. We can add Chicks, the Easter Bunny (or rather Hare), Candles, spring flowers and the Butterfly to name but a few. They are all symbols of hope, they tell of Jesus risen from the tomb.

You cannot enjoy an egg however attractive without breaking it open, from the boiled egg at breakfast to the decorated chocolate egg. New life with Christ came when he broke out of the tomb! The chick in the egg a sign of new life too! Reflect on scripture – Jesus, the sacrificial Lamb of God, Jesus Light of the World – the Easter or Pascal Candle. The flowers, new life in themselves, the Lily among them, the white blossom represents the purity of Jesus.

All a sign of hope, Jesus who came to help us understand the relationship of this life with the life to come.

It is Spring, the hopeful sign of new life itself. With the lockdown I have observed the coming of spring in my garden more closely than ever before. The wonder of nature, everything so barren in winter and everything 'Springs' into life! An unbelievable pattern of new life all around.

A time of hope as we move cautiously out of the lockdown. So much anxiety and sadness, but now with the amazing skills of scientists and doctors we have a vaccine which can give us more reassurance. Some openly acknowledging the Hand of God has been with them.

Easter helps us think about life – and death – just as each day turns into another, the belief that this life too is like a day that at the end turns for us into a new different one, a new life.

God in nature transforms winter into spring. The Hand of God is there to give us hope in the vaccinations and we can move carefully on from lockdown.

There is much hope around, in the message of Easter, in the new life of Spring and the vaccination. A positive hope for the coming months.

With all hope my best thoughts are for you to have a Happy and Blessed Easter.

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