

The Bishop's House, 23 Davenport Road, Coventry CV5 6PW

THE BISHOP OF COVENTRY
The Right Reverend Dr Christopher Cocksworth

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16th April 2019

À l'attention de Mgr Michel Aupetit
Archevêque de Paris
Diocèse de Paris,
10 rue du Cloître Notre-Dame,
75004 Paris

Your Grace,

I bring you greetings from the Diocese of Coventry, Church of England, in the name of our suffering Lord, Jesus Christ.

I write from a City and Diocese whose beloved Cathedral was destroyed by fire during the Second World War, so we have watched the flames engulf the Cathedral of Notre-Dame with hearts that know something of the tragedy that you are experiencing.

Please know that our prayers are with you, your clergy, all the faithful and all the people of Paris – indeed, the whole of France. With others throughout the world, our commemorations during this Holy Week will have special poignancy as we remember your sufferings and the way you now find yourselves being brought very near to the cross of Christ.

After the fire that destroyed our Cathedral, and the rebuilding of the Cathedral and the renewal of our life and ministry that took place by the grace of God, we discovered afresh the power of the resurrection. That is our prayer for you – that even this Easter, *especially this Easter*, you will know the presence of the risen Christ and strength of God's mighty love that nothing can overcome.

The Dean of Coventry has sent out several messages through the Cathedral's Facebook account which can also be viewed on the website: www.coventrycathedral.org.uk and he will be in personal contact with the Rector of Notre Dame. He joins me and the whole of the Diocese of Coventry in sending to you our love in the crucified and risen Christ.

With my love in Christ
Yours sincerely
+ Christopher Cocksworth

cc Cardinal Vincent Nichols, Archbishop of Westminster
His Excellency Jean-Pierre Jouyet, Ambassador of France to the United Kingdom
The Very Reverend John Witcombe, Dean of Coventry