

'The Gift of Life'

Very much the message of Easter.

On Easter Day we proclaim
'He is risen' - and we all respond,
'He is risen indeed'.

It is our faith that through death
comes new life.

It was, therefore, timely when two
experts came to speak to our March
Council about 'The Gift of Life'.

Dr Frankie Downen, consultant
nephrologist at the Freeman transplant unit, and Ross Hutchinson, ITV
weather man and live kidney donor, engaged us with interesting
statistics, addressed FAQs such as religious and legal issues around
organ donation, and told heart-warming personal stories, including
that of local children, Max and Keira.

Max and Keira's Law came into effect in 2020 and has enabled more
people to receive life-saving organs. Max is now a healthy teenager,
having received a life-giving heart aged nine, from Keira, also aged nine,
who died in a tragic accident. Keira's parents take comfort from
knowing their daughter's heart is alive in Max; Max and his new
'adopted family' are closely in touch.

As Jesus was dying, he committed the care of his mother and his best
friend, John, to one another. We have a God who knows the pain of loss
and the gift of a new kind of life it can bring in its wake.

The message to MU at council was one of hope and the life that can be
found through the most difficult of circumstances. This is the message
of Easter, revealed in a contemporary context. It is an example of a
blessing, forged through the pain of loss.

**May Christ, who out of defeat brings new hope and a new future,
fill you with his new life. May Easter Joy be yours.**



Dr Frankie and Ross (centre) with President Margy (left) and Sandra (right), whose son received a life-saving kidney recently)