

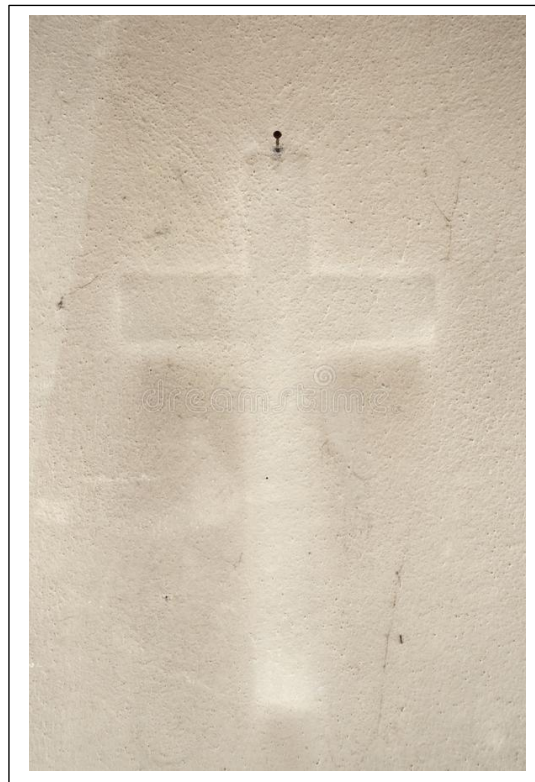
The Mark of the Cross

Christ is risen. He is risen indeed!

The old cross has gone – but it has left its mark – beneath the nail on which it hung.

The cross of Christ is gone – but not the mark it has left on humanity across the world and in the pages of history. The light of the resurrection makes a mark of love on us all.

We too leave our mark upon the world when we are gone - however small, however faint it may be – it is our mark and the world will never be quite the same again.



Most of us believe we lead unremarkable lives. Yet none of us is ‘ordinary’! Each of us has something uniquely special and notable about our lives, our experiences, the ways in which we connect with others and the events which shape us. We may never hit the headlines or receive a civic award, but we each have something of value to give, however ‘unspectacular’ our lives may be. Our presence in the world, our prayers for others, our faithful performance of the little acts of kindness in daily living, each leaves its mark. In the words of a popular 1945 song: *‘If I can help somebody ... then my living shall not be in vain’*.

In his book ‘Facing the Storm’ Eddie Askew, one-time chaplain to the Leprosy Mission and who inspired this post, wrote:

I may not see its cosmic breadth, or deep significance,
but in the faithful living out
and quiet affirmation of this day’s duty,
lies worth and joy.

And on some wall a mark is made.
A mark of love, shaped like a cross.

God grant the mark we leave is the
mark of the cross – the mark of love.