

The Catholic Parish of Corpus Christi, Henfield.

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Father Hugh writes cont/d:

lives; are we really ready to "Not let our hearts be troubled and; Trust in God still and trust in Jesus"? Gosh, just at this time it is important for us to think about it all and where we are.

If You can, maybe those words could form the basis of our prayer this week. There is much to think about, and then later on when Jesus says to us, "I am the Way, Truth and Life".

Many of us are alone at home, self isolating, quiet, missing our families and friends and some amongst us all are those who have greater worries; perhaps it is in our prayer that we can pull them all together in these words that St John gives us.

Our Celebration, though muted, of Easter continues, and gives us a real focus in these lovely spring days, which according to our forecasters is about to change to a chilly week. I think winter woollies will be needed again, and perhaps a fire. It was similar in 1985 on May 11th as we went to the Cathedral for my Ordination.

This week again will remind us not to be too hasty in planting out tender plants. It is difficult to believe, but tomatoes do turn 'blue' if they get cold and somehow never seem to recover. I've been holding back from putting in the dahlias and will wait until the weather warms up again.

Our Thanks to Paul and Marie-Anne for keeping us all so connected in these weeks. We didn't know at the beginning in mid March how long it would be, and already two months have passed. I continue to offer Mass for all your intentions and needs on Sunday morning.

Writing this on Friday and having just walked down the lanes, it is wonderful to see the spring bounty of flower, a combination of red campion, bluebells, jack in the hedge, dandelions and woodruff. Overhead are the Horse chestnuts, still in flower for this Chestnut Sunday.

Pope Francis celebrated Thursday morning Mass, the Fourth Week of Easter, at the Casa Santa Marta with special prayers for artists and an invitation to Christians never to forget they are part of the chosen people of God. During his introduction he turned his thoughts to artists saying that on Wednesday 6th May he received a letter from a group of them thanking him for his prayers:

Pope Francis said "I would like to ask the Lord to bless them because through artists we understand beauty, and without beauty we cannot understand the Gospel".

At the end of his General Audience on Wednesday on the theme of prayer, the Pope said, "It is artists who often interpret this silent groan which weighs on every creature and is expressed above all in the heart of men and women, for "man is a beggar before God."

The Catholic magazine The Faith Companion, published by members of Arundel & Brighton Diocese with the full approval of Bishop Richard, is currently available in digital-only form due to the corona virus crisis. The magazine contains articles on a wide variety of theological and spiritual topics from a range of qualified authors. Its goal is to accompany parishioners in their journey to draw closer to Christ. and is a two monthly parishioner magazine costing £4.50 per e-copy and £32 subscription. Go to www.thefaithcompanion.co.uk email: thefaithcompanion@gmail.com or phone 01403 754808.

The next Live Streamed Cathedral Mass is Thursday, 14th May, celebrated by Bishop Robert Byrne at St Marys Cathedral, Newcastle at 7pm. The Mass will be offered for the sick, their families, NHS front-line workers and all those working in social care.

To view go to the YouTube channel.