

## Father Hugh writes:

In succession this week we celebrate one feast and two Memorias. Monday: The Triumph of the Cross, which for the Carthusian Community up the road concludes their Easter events and the rest of the year, until next Easter, becomes more penitential. On Tuesday: Our Lady of Sorrows and Wednesday St's Cornelius and Cyprian, both Martyrs. Cornelius a Pope died in 250 and Cyprian Bishop in Carthage in 258.

Happily there's no celebration that we need to keep on Thursday since that could reduce the celebration for Jo and Steven Slaughter on their Diamond Wedding Anniversary. Our Congratulations and Warmest Wishes to them both.

Obviously we offer our Mass for their intentions and give thanks for their long marriage. At the moment, all I recall of 1962 would have been the change from primary to secondary education!

**Second Collections:** This weekend is meant to be for the Holy Places and next weekend for Home Mission Sunday, followed by Education of Future Priests at the end of the month. I appreciate that this is an awful lot at once, so please do choose as you think fit. It's helpful to have your intentions on any second collections in envelopes clearly marked either with those coloured envelopes in your gift aid envelope boxes or a.n.other.

**Coronavirus:** At the time of writing the number of Covid-19 cases is beginning to rise rapidly which for some of us may feel alarming. We must continue to take all precautions to protect ourselves and each other particularly in our church.

There is plenty of sanitizer for everyone's use and when using the church please remember not to pass through the pews but always circulate through the aisles. Keeping our distance is important too.

Having never visited Bournemouth before, we found it delightful with splendid walks along the shoreline, fulfilling more than the daily recommendation of steps. Always delightful is seeing children playing in the sand.

If you've not read "Conclave" by Robert Harris I would recommend the novel especially as some of us may return to reading as autumn approaches.

On another more serious level, I would recommend John Sutherland's new book "Crossing the Line". John reached the rank of Commander in the Metropolitan Police and retired approximately 5 years ago. He writes with such compassion and reflects on the ills of our society and the complexities of human lives. His first book "Blue" was one I couldn't put down! The second is equally as good.

These September days are lovely, but it's noticeable even in the middle of the month that plants are drying out and stressed from lack of water again, so do check yours to make sure they are not suffering. The nights being clear are cooler, no longer time for sitting out in an evening and I suppose most of us haven't got that time anyway.

I do think the tomatoes are slower ripening this year and the dry weather has enabled blight to be held at bay.

If you need to reseed the lawn or fill up holes that have developed, this month is a good one for sowing grass seed as it will germinate quickly and establish a good root through the winter.

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The London Jesuit Centre is hosting some events and retreats online and planning in-person courses for later in the year. Some of the subjects to be covered are: Theology and Covid, Retreat in Daily Life and Theology and Poetry. Full details of these and all other courses can be found at [www.londonjesuitcentre.org](http://www.londonjesuitcentre.org)