

The Catholic Parish of Corpus Christi, Henfield

Father Hugh writes cont/d:

As you will know the Government announced that Churches, Mosques, Synagogues and other places of Worship, could re-open this week. There are many restrictions on this and plans that must be put in place to ensure everyone's safety and ensure that the risk of spreading Covid-19 is avoided. We are establishing a team of volunteers below the age of 70 who are able to give time to be stewards, and/or act as cleaners at the end of each opening. It is quite a commitment to be a volunteer in these circumstances and at least one of a team must have a current safeguarding certificate.

It could be the case that when we open, the planned time may not always happen because our stewards can't fulfil their time because of needs in their personal lives. We need to put in place and have all the facilities for cleaning.

All books, pamphlets for prayer are removed from the church, so any aids to prayer must be brought by the user and taken away as they leave the church.

We are looking at the moment perhaps of 3 opening times through the week and that we may only be able to accommodate 6 to 8 people at any one time.

As we publish the newsletter once a week, it may be possible to add additional information to the website as plans progress; so I think our message at the moment is please be patient and don't rush all at once.

The number of deaths associated with Covid-19 has passed 41,000; much higher than perhaps was thought originally. I am aware that they have not been as high in our area; but that doesn't prevent us from putting all requirements in place.

This week on Tuesday (16th) at 11am is the funeral for Eileen Pummell at Worthing Crematorium; please do pray for her repose and the family at that time if you are able. Eileen had lived all her life in Henfield, and in her home since her marriage 65 years ago. May she rest in peace.

Mass on Monday is for Paul and Marie-Anne's intentions.

This Friday we celebrate the Solemnity of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, a feast that celebrates the love of God for us all as our hearts speak to one another in love and friendship. Two aspects of our lives that have come to the fore during this time of lockdown. As we look out for each other and have time to stop and have a chat.

Tuesday is the Memoria of St Richard of Chichester, secondary patron of our diocese.

Have you made your elderflower cordial or 'champagne' yet? If not, there's still time, as there are still plenty of flowers in the hedgerows when out for a walk.

At the time of writing, it's very breezy again, which always reminds me that it is time to tie up plants like tomatoes as they grow so that the stems can carry the weight of the fruit later on.

The Dahlias and Chrysanthus are not tall enough yet. I'm also about to dead head the first flush of roses to encourage further blooming.

The next Live Streamed Cathedral Mass is this coming Thursday 18th June and will be celebrated at 7pm by Archbishop Bernard Longley at St Chad's Cathedral, Birmingham.

View at St Chad's on MCN Media.

As usual the Mass will be offered for all the sick and their families, together with all the NHS front-line workers and all those working in social care.

A message to Red Box Holders: Due to the Covid-19 situation the summer edition of Mission Today (the Missio newsletter) has been delayed and will not arrive until, at the earliest, the end of June. When they do arrive I will keep hold of them until it is safe to distribute them.

Should your red box be full please let me know and I will arrange for a second box to be supplied to you. At the moment I am not allowed to empty the boxes or bank the contents. Thank you all red box holders for your continued support. Margaret Hollingsworth. Phone: 01273 493754 or email: margaret@deadlinegraphics.co.uk