

# *The Catholic Parish of Corpus Christi, Henfield.*

*Parish Priest:*

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## *Father Hugh writes cont/d:*

News has come from Bishop Richard that we can resume public Masses in our churches from Saturday 4th July. These can only take place providing we continue to observe social distancing which is particularly important in a building. We think that the maximum congregation in our church should only be 25, which means not everyone can meet together on a Sunday at 10am as we are used to.

One solution is to have a second Mass at 8.30am on Sunday mornings as well as the 10am. We think that a way forward (keeping in mind that the Sunday obligation is suspended) is to suggest that families may like to focus gathering at the 10am Mass. That means that family groups can be treated as one and could occupy a pew or part of?

We older people may find the earlier Mass easier to get too, or to come on one of the weekdays, for example on Monday morning at 10am.

As you will have seen the situation is continually changing. The Instructions from the Bishops are quite clear too: that there is to be no singing, that books are not available, and that the homily should be brief and omitting the intercessions. Cleaning of the church must take place after each celebration and the church must then be closed.

Tweaks in the Liturgy must also take place and we must all keep a distance when approaching for Holy Communion. Before the distribution of Communion, I shall elevate the Host and chalice, with the words 'The Body/Blood of Christ' at which point you will respond collectively 'Amen' There will be no further words when you come to receive and please, arms fully stretched and one hand above the other.

There will not be an offertory procession nor collection taken. Any offerings you may wish to make perhaps could be in the form of a cheque, it's safer! All will become clearer as opening up continues.

Please do remember to use the sanitiser when coming into the church and wearing of face masks is encouraged. We have plenty and can get some more as and when supplies run low.

As always, if you can see any omissions, have concerns please do be in touch; we need to make this work for all of us.

Sister Zita phoned the other night and we had a delightful chat. She sends her love to you all and thanks us for our prayers. When the appropriate aids are in place she will return to The Towers. I was delighted to have the chat, as also on Wednesday last with those visiting at our first opening.

I have a few spare curly kale, cavala nero and a few other young brassica plants if anyone would like them, before they advance to the compost heap. I've run out of space!

Gosh, what a heatwave; I hope no one has melted in it? Some plants have certainly scorched in the heat and much has needed extra watering. We must plough on with watering until it rains, (if it ever does again!!).

The next Live Streamed Cathedral Mass is on Thursday 2nd July celebrated by Archbishop John Wilson at 7pm at St George's Cathedral, Southwark. View on the YouTube channel.

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

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