

Father Hugh writes:

This is the last Sunday in the church year and we celebrate the Kingship of Jesus Christ, as well as National Youth Sunday, all remotely or perhaps with our books. In the second reading for our Mass, St Paul states his hope in the resurrection, against those amongst the people of Corinth who would deny this.

Not unlike our times in many ways, but different of course. We have so much thrown at us in a day that faith and speaking of our faith in God can too be remote. Our lives are surrounded by people of no faith to people of great faith but not shared by us.

It must be a good thing to be part of this world where we are part of so many choices, but in faith matters part of the Christian community following Jesus Christ whom we claim as our King.

You may know that our bishops have their autumn meeting concluding last Friday (20th). They were due to make a public statement on Friday after the meeting and time to consider the IICSA report, which is long and runs to approx 150 pages.

The report into Child abuse does not make for pleasant reading, but can be found if you wish at <http://www.iicsa.org.uk>

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Fr Tim Garratt who died on Friday 13th. Tim had been unwell for sometime and is probably not known by many of us, having spent a significant part of his priesthood in Geneva as assistant chaplain to the English speaking community. His Funeral will be on December 1st at Sacred Heart Church, Waterloooville.

It's that time of the year when we are requested by charities to contribute. I just draw your attention to the Prisoner advice and care trust, (PACT) who remind us of the difficulties of prisoners trying to keep in touch with family during a 23 hour lockdown for months and months. The charity have been active in trying to find solutions to aid family links with visits curtailed early in the pandemic. Operation Elf is operating this year gathering book tokens (value £10) that can then be sent to a prisoner's child with a card. For more details: <http://www.prisonadvice.org.uk>

'Christmas is coming, and the geese are getting fat.....'

Thanks to the work of Leo, Mo and Susie, they have established that we could stream our Christmas Masses via our facebook page. Later on we will be able to give you the details of how to access this should you wish, as we know some of us will be unable to attend Mass physically.

We are planning 3 Masses: Christmas Eve at 7.30pm & Christmas Day 8.30am and 10am. Assuming, as we must that we will be returning to our summer celebrations, numbers will be restricted as before, therefore it will be essential for you to book in due course. If numbers are higher than our Sunday congregations, then we will also use the hall as an overspill where the streaming can be seen on the television. I hope that all makes sense!

We are again collecting for the food bank. The usual dried non perishable foods etc. can be dropped off at church when it is open on Sunday mornings (10am-12noon) or if you contact Celia it can be collected from your doorstep. For this collection the final drop time will be Sunday 29th November. Many thanks, Celia. (tel. 01273 492680)

The appeal is still on-going for the homeless at St Anne's Day Centre. Eighty Pounds have so far kindly been given but there is still time for your generous help. We have been asked for socks, shower gel, shampoo and toothpaste but a monetary donation in lieu is much appreciated. Your contributions can be left in the box in the church porch or at Henfield Place. Many thanks to those who have already donated, and, in anticipation, for further benefactions!! Jo.

Fr Barry Wymes' funeral on Friday 27th, at the Holy Name Church, Esher at 12noon, will be live streamed. May he rest in peace.

