



Dear All,

I have just been writing my Homily/Reflection for Pentecost (attached to this Newsletter). In the course of preparing it, I came across some notes from Italy on how St Charles Borromeo coped in Milan in the plague of 1576. It is most interesting as “social distancing” was in place then, and Mass was not celebrated in Church even on Christmas Day! And, still the Church recovered! So, please God, following on your good work in keeping in touch with your people and the wonderful help of the Internet, we will recover too!

Archbishop Bernard has sent me a copy of the **letter of the Birmingham Faith Leaders Group**, of which he is a member, expressing solidarity with the Chinese Catholic Community especially at this time when the Chinese are experiencing racist attacks on account of the Corona Virus originating in China. Father Liang has been very pleased to receive a personal letter from Archbishop Bernard and the statement of Faith Leaders. The Chinese Catholics, like all of us, are praying for an end to the Pandemic.

I have also received an email from Father Yen Vu about the work of the **Vietnamese Community in gathering PPE** for Care Homes, Schools, and Carers. In addition to equipment, they have now raised over £4k which is going to the City of Birmingham to help with purchase of extra equipment. What a wonderful initiative this is; the City is delighted. At this moment, when children are about to return to schools, we are more aware of the need for PPE especially for staff.

I hope you like the piece on the Punjabi Chaplaincy that has gone into the Chaplaincies, Eparchies and Missions **Website ‘Our Lady of Good Counsel’**. The Diocesan Website has a special piece on it, directing all those interested to our Website.

I know you will be looking forward to the **Welcome Mass in St Chad’s for the Eparch of the Ukrainian Catholic Community**. The Byzantine Rite Mass can be accessed at the Ukrainian Cathedral of the Holy Family in London:

Sundays and Major Feast Days:

09:00 - Ukrainian Divine Liturgy with Homily and Prayer of Spiritual
Communion in Ukrainian and English

10:30 - Bilingual Ukrainian and (majority) English usage including Readings and
Homily

The link: <https://www.facebook.com/UkrainianCatholicCathedralOfTheHolyFamily/>

Monsignor Daniel McHugh

Co-ordinator for Ethnic Chaplaincies in the Archdiocese



Speaking of the Holy Family, I am reminded of a lovely **prayer for families** by Pope Francis which I have received from Lazarus Frank of the Punjabi Chaplaincy. You may wish to share it with your Community and I am forwarding it to you:

A Prayer for Families

Heavenly Father, You sent Your
Own Son Jesus to become part of an
Earthly family with Mary and Joseph.
And so you understand what
families face each and every day.

Give this family the gift of JOY.
May they find laughter and happiness
In the moments shared with each
other as they grow together.

Give this family the gift of STRENGTH.
May they turn to you in times of struggle.
And may they know the power of Your
Love, to help them through their
Darkest challenges.

Give this family the gift of PEACE.
May their lives be free of worry and
Sadness. May they treasure every moment
You have given them together.

Amen

Finally, I wish the **Spiritans/Holy Ghost Fathers**, who take care of two of our Chaplaincies, all joy on their special Feast.

With prayer for a renewed sense of God's Presence, the Gift of the Holy Spirit in your Mission

Monsignor Daniel McHugh
28 May 2020

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