



Dear All,

It has been an interesting week in the context of re-evaluation of the role of the Church and the “**Black Lives Matter**” movement. I sent you an article from Crisis magazine last week, highlighting Papal teaching related to Racism, and this week, I am sending you a link to an article on **St Junipero Serra** from the National Catholic Reporter, giving you another perspective on the time of Serra and the Evangelisation of California. (<https://www.ncronline.org/blogs/faith-and-justice/junipero-serra-saint-or-not>). As you will be aware, there has been a great deal of division about Racism and the way it impacts in matters to do with equal opportunities in the UK, in education, housing, work, young people and all aspects of life.

I was invited to join a Catholic Association for Racial Justice Zoom Conference on Wednesday this week, where the **Runnymede Trust Report on Ethnicity, Race and Inequality** was discussed. This Report, published in April, is available online at CARJ. It is clear, the Church still has a lot to do in taking forward its service of a multi-ethnic society. Way back, in November 1999, Guidelines were published for Catholic Organisations and Institutions, to review their operation in the light of the **Macpherson Report**. This is also available online from CARJ.

Then, the **MP for Meriden, Saqib Bhatti**, asked to meet me about my former work in Regenerating Communities. It gave me the opportunity to talk to him about my “new” work with Catholic Ethnic Communities, and to ask him about the proposed **Immigration Bill**, in which he is particularly interested. I would appreciate hearing from you on this matter: my own special concern would be keeping the door open for Priests and Sisters to come to support Catholic Ethnic Communities here. When the Government speaks of people with certain skills being permitted to come to the UK, it is to do with the “economy” of course, but those who serve the “community” also benefit the economy!

I was pleased to note the **Anniversary on 28 July of the Establishing of the Apostolic Eparchy of the Syro Malabar Community** by Papal Mandate. Our prayers are with them as we continue working together in our common Mission.

Finally, I am pleased to confirm that we are still looking forward to our Ethnic Communities **Pilgrimage to Knock 30 July to 2 August next year with Archbishop Bernard**. The problems caused by COVID-19, especially with regard to travel, are impacting everywhere, including Knock, but **please keep the date free and in your diary**.

Monsignor Daniel McHugh

Co-ordinator for Ethnic Chaplaincies in the Archdiocese



THE ARCHDIOCESE *of* BIRMINGHAM

Ethnic Chaplaincies

Please God you will have a nice rest in August. I look forward sending out the Newsletter and Reflections again for the beginning of September.

Prayers

Monsignor Daniel McHugh

Sunday 2 August

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