

Newsletter: 10th January 2021

Dear All,

It is disappointing that we have the extension of the restrictions on life generally, due to the increase of infections caused by the Pandemic. Happily, the restrictions on Church Services have not been altered significantly; I am sure you will continue to support your people, and make use of the opportunities offered through online services and meetings.

I am hoping we can begin our Zoom meetings soon to enable us to share experience in Catechesis and Youth Work, so I look forward to hearing about what you are planning for 2021.

I am forwarding my Reflection/Homily for The Feast of the Baptism of Our Lord which will also be on the Burning Bush Vlog tomorrow, Friday. I am also attaching the Reflection I shared at the streamed Mass from my home on the Epiphany. You may find some points from both that are helpful to your own preparations for this weekend's Masses.

I am sorry that you must be finding getting away for a break and back to your homelands difficult, due to the travel restrictions in the Pandemic that are becoming so much more constricting. And, issues around visas and work are of course going to impact too on our Chaplaincies as the Government brings in new immigration laws.

I have referred to the new book of Pope Francis in conversation with Austin Ivereigh "Let us Dream" in my Reflection for this Sunday. I have to admit to not having it yet, but what I have read about it and seen quoted, makes it something for the Priests' "bucket list", so I hope you can get hold of it as soon as possible. Meanwhile, I particularly liked the article in the Guardian of 29<sup>th</sup> November by Julian Coman where "Let us Dream" is reviewed as the Observer Book of the Week. You can find this on the Internet.

With prayers and all good wishes for 2021,

Mgr Daniel McHugh

7<sup>th</sup> January 2021

## **Monsignor Daniel McHugh**

Co-ordinator for Ethnic Chaplaincies in the Archdiocese