

ALL SAINTS'



This week's Newsbulletin

All Saints' Welcomes Everyone

Dear friends,

I notice that Nancy Stewart, a 107-year-old woman from Clonard, County Meath is attempting a "Virtual Mass" tour across Ireland while in lockdown. She and her granddaughter, Louise Coghlan, have been shielding together since last March and have decided on this spiritual challenge!

Louise has tried to find different things with which to occupy her elderly grandmother and found that when she asks Nancy if she wants to watch Mass her "eyes light up like I'd just given her a million euros". Apparently, Nancy can hardly believe that she can watch Mass on a computer or a phone from her comfy armchair on any day of the week. "I feel so happy and so refreshed sitting happily in my own kitchen, in my armchair looking at Mass."

It is amazing and marvellous that we can worship safely in our homes and that we have the technology to keep in touch and worship together by phone or on line. You don't need to be a centenarian or have any other reason to use the internet for worship in seeking to keep yourself and others safe from the virus.

We all know it feels different, and for many of us it is similar to what must be Nancy's biggest regret, as a devout Catholic, that she cannot literally share in the communion itself.

Yet this can be a spiritual lifeline as we focus on all that Jesus has done for us, his willingness to sacrifice himself, his broken body and pierced side on the cross - the call to us to follow his way of love, knowing that He is always with us.

Seeing the shockingly high infection rate and the highest daily death toll thus far, we have taken the decision to close All Saints again for the coming weeks, a very hard choice which goes against my instincts and preferences, but the risks are too high.

Worship and love of God is about our deepest feelings: perhaps we can see it as not so

much "not meeting" as "caring and protecting" until we can feel safe in this world, rejoicing that we are called by God as inheritors of joy and peace in the next.

Love, Jo

All Saints Art

Do hope you are all surviving the cold New Year. As one of my Art friends says, we need to paint some bright pictures to cheer us up. Our group will continue on email probably until Easter. Nick and I suggest we start the Alphabet and each week we paint an idea starting with the letter. This week A – is for Apple or Aardvark or Articulated tram (for Reg), i.e. you can do almost anything, think of an appropriate subject for you. It can be in any medium and any size. When completed send to Nick and he will set up a gallery of them.

Newcomers always welcome. Please email Gillian on gillian.harman@ntlworld.com if you are interested.

Sunday 17th (Epiphany 2)

10.00 Family Service on Zoom

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81697626629?pwd=cWNPamhRT2xMbVNlbFIOaHpONGVmdz09>

Meeting ID: 861 7100 3223 PW: 494244

Tuesday 19th (Wulfstan)

11.00 Morning Prayer on Zoom

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88015708219>

Meeting ID: 880 1570 8219

'Zoom'-ing by 'phone

Call 0203 051 2874, 0203 481 5237, 0203 481 5240 or 0131460 1196 and use meeting id followed by #

Contact information

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