

## **Reflection for Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> May 2020– the eve of Pentecost.**

One of the challenges I have found during this lockdown is how best to order the day. Thankfully there are some set times that Father Paul and I meet for prayer and to celebrate Mass privately; there are other scheduled times also, which give structure to the day.

There are also the in-between times and knowing how to use them wisely and beneficially is at times a challenge.

Yesterday late afternoon I sat in the garden to reflect on the Sunday Scriptures for this beautiful Feast of Pentecost. It was warm and very calm and I became fixed on the blue tits and robins coming to feed on the bird feeders which a parishioner very kindly placed in the garden for our benefit.

It was a very special moment when I felt at one with God, and His creation, and a peace within myself.

I hope that there have been times like this for you also, which we might describe as grace-filled moments. Moments which capture the transcendence in our lives, moments when our spirits soar.

I am aware too that such moments are necessary for us so that the more humdrum events of our day might also be discovered as grace-filled; the demands that you face as parents, as students, the uncertainty of aspects of our present daily lives which we would normally take for granted, the worries of being able to pay the bills, whether you should send the children back to school, and the insecurity of not knowing whether you will still have a job when we get through the lockdown.

Part of the challenge of our discipleship is to allow our Lord to speak to our anxious hearts, to these vexing questions, with the assurance that He knows and understands the movements and the motives of our hearts.

In Saint Paul's letter to the Romans Chapter 8 he writes: ***“The Spirit too comes to help us in our weakness. For when we cannot choose words in order to pray properly, the Spirit Himself expresses our plea in a way that could never be put into words, and God who knows everything in our hearts knows perfectly well what He means, and that the pleas of the saints expressed by the Spirit are according to the mind of God.”*** (Romans 8: 26-27)

With such assurance let us continue to entrust our deepest needs and longings to the all-embracing love of the Blessed Trinity – He who is our Maker, our Lover and our Keeper.