

Sunday 17 May 2020
6 Sunday of Easter

Dear Brothers and Sisters

Again I hope this finds you fit and well.

Please be assured that our little community prays every day and keeps you all in prayer. A friend of the community John Delaney who spent a few weeks with us returned home on Thursday. He felt he needed to be with his mother who hadn't been too well recently.

John was a helpful and lively presence when he was with us and we ask God's blessing on him in the future.

So there are just four of us in the Community.

This week we celebrate the Ascension, that's on Thursday. This feast commemorates the conclusion of Christ's redemptive mission but he is still very much with us when we pray or celebrate the Eucharist. And we hope most sincerely that that day may be with us soon when we can gather to celebrate Mass together.

Italy is beginning to open its churches again this week, and we pray that we may follow suit sometime soon.

Having said that it is probable that we will have to continue to exercise some form of social distancing.

With the celebration of the Ascension we begin the Solemn Novena to prepare for and welcome the coming of the Spirit. Remember too that the Apostles, gathered together with our Lady, were also in a lock-down position before the Holy Spirit came. So again I encourage you to pray very earnestly for protection, especially of the lonely and vulnerable.

If you go online you can log into [Thy Kingdom Come](#). This is a special prayer feature urging us all to pray for the church and our world as we come to Pentecost.

You will find some encouraging videos and prayers. It has the blessing of the Archbishops of Westminster and Canterbury and should be a helpful encouragement at this time.

May I ask you again to

Keep safe

Keep well

Keep smiling

Affectionately

Fr Chris and the Servite community