

HOMILY ON COMMUNICATIONS SUNDAY 7TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Today is World Communication's Day.

- Many parishes have confronted communications challenges brought on by the pandemic restrictions
- The Coronavirus has had a profound impact on our way of prayer and worship as well as our way of getting in touch.
- Thank God so many parishes are streaming Catholic Mass online.

In an attempt to respond to the need of communication within our parish at this time of lockdown, we have just launched three initiatives besides others that we already have.

- a) Firstly, to livestream this Mass via utube as we wait for the proper livestreaming facility which has been delayed due to the lockdown.

Thanks to Al Hood for his expertise

- b) Secondly today we have launched the parish facebook thanks to Helen Louise.
- c) Thirdly we have another initiative, thanks to Carol Ann Harnett to start the '**Lockdown Children's Liturgy**' of the Word on Pentecost Sunday this coming week.

As you can see, these initiatives are indicative of the inherent passion of the people of the parish to remain connected as a community come what may.

The majority of facebook users tend to be those on the younger side, who may find it boring to make the effort to reach out for a parish website.

We know you our Young people: you are the kind who like to pick and share information in the moment.

- The parish facebook is now readily available to you on the phone in your hands.

I encourage you to connect and engage with it.

These initiatives are in line with Pope Francis who has chosen to reflect on reaching out to young people on this Communication Sunday.

In the intro to his Communication Sunday message the theme reads "**That you may tell your children and grandchildren**" (Ex 10:2)

The Holy Father goes on to underline the importance of storytelling.

There is something about stories...They aren't just entertainment...
They are all we have...to fight off illness and death.
Jesus himself was a great story teller.

Good stories have the function to build up.
Stories help us rediscover our roots and they give us strength needed to move forward together.
Stories can conquer fear, you know. They can make the heart bigger.
Stories are our escort in life; without stories, we are blind.
Stories can own us and direct us.

In the midst of so many confusing voices and messages that surround us, we need a human story that can speak of ourselves and of the beauty all around us.

We are the story tellers
On this Communications Sunday let us pick a phone and tell someone a story that will make a difference in their lives