



10 May 2019

*Letter 5 13 / 19*

Dear Parishioners,

One of the everyday spiritual practices I promised myself I would do this Easter season, was to plant something and to daily watch it grow. And I must say, it is such a joyful and fulfilling experience doing just that. The first thing somehow, that has caught my eye these past few weeks, when entering the gate at “*Maureen’s house*”, our parish office, was the beauty of the ice-cream shrubs with its leaves variegated in green, white, pink and red.

While visiting a family last Sunday afternoon, I was given a small cutting of this beautiful plant. So, I planted it in a pot, almost in the middle of the rectory garden, which has access to full sun. It is also close to the rectory gate, and can hopefully be enjoyed by others who just simply pass by and see it growing. Already now, after only a few days



of watching, tending and spiritually internalizing my little ice-cream plant which hopefully will become a big shrub one day; my Easter faith is being sustained and brought to life.

What struck me while I was pulling out the weeds in the pot, which have already made their presence known, was how the whole act of watching, tending and internalizing is also what happens when we worship together. What’s more is that almost all of my activity around the little plant has been done in a kneeling position, reminding me of our praying positions in church.



Thinking about all of this, it occurred to me how much more meaningful and sustaining worship can be, if there is a connection with life outside a building; so much more being in a garden or just having a few plants in a few pots and tending to it. No wonder the risen Jesus made himself known in a garden. Perhaps we need to see and ponder more deeply around the physical context and space of the Easter experience. The

season of Easter is indeed an invitation to engage fully with life around us in a more conscious way. Allowing every thought, activity and experience to transform us in becoming the Easter people.

This is all for now.

With love,

*Selwyn*