

# KIT @ KIPPAX

Staying Connected while Physically Distant

**Tuesday 21 April 2020**

## *Touch is the nourishment of our humanity*

How can we live in isolation? We need proximity and touch, hugs and kisses, to be really alive. Every stranger, and even friend, is seen as a possible threat to one's life, and I to him or her. Safety is found only in keeping apart.

In the Sistine Chapel, Michelangelo shows God's finger touching Adam into life. We are all the hands of the life-giving God when we touch others with kindness and respect. Touch is the nourishment of our humanity.

Grandparents and grandchildren who cannot hug each other are living a deep deprivation!

Suddenly, when I must not touch, I am in touch with people whom I have not seen for years. Yes, there is isolation, but also a new and wide communion of those who care.

Cyberspace is not the same, but...It is filled with messages expressing love and care. Usually we do not sit in front of screens staring at each other. Faces are best seen in side-glances, unexpected glimpses, caught unawares when one enters a room. We do not stare at the faces of those whom we love, as we focus relentlessly at the screen when we Skype or Zoom. When we are physically together, we look at each other gently, discreetly, from every angle.

It is not the same. I miss the faces of those whom I love.

*Taken from: Coronavirus is depriving us of touch, the nourishment of our humanity, by Timothy Radcliffe*

OP Article sent in by Judy Netting

**Today's Gospel John 3: 7-15**



**T**hanks again to all the people who are keeping our masses and parish going through social media.

At Sunday's mass last weekend, I felt that the camera moving in on the tabernacle during communion was something special and different. The red light against the very light coloured background symbolised to me the fire of Christ's love and how it is still shining for us even in these times, through the fogs and mists of doubt and uncertainty. This would be something we don't normally see at mass as we sit so far away from it.

Margaret Luck



**H**ospitality is not kindness. It is openness to the unknown, trust of what frightens us, the expenditure of self on the unfamiliar, the merging of unlikes. Hospitality binds the world together.

*In a high Spiritual Season, by Joan Chittister*