



NAZARETH PARISH

GROVEDALE TORQUAY

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Dear friends,

It is good to write to you again after a pause for my annual leave. My stay-at-home leave was wonderful!

Both Frs. Gerard Spillane and Bob Wood have been wonderful in helping with the parish Mass online and I am grateful for their support. Rodney Dearing, Maree Smart and our 4th Year Seminarian, Allan Aclan, have been a tremendous in organising and providing Mass online for our parish, and I thank them also.

We have been blessed with some glorious days the new season brings. Spring arrives just in time to cheers us up a little as we patiently take measured steps towards COVID-normal. The current Victoria Government roadmap indicates that the earliest we can resume Mass face-to-face would be from 23rd November.

While we understand the slow and measured pathway out, we also acknowledge the challenges these restrictions bring to mental and spiritual wellbeing of our people. We particularly think of those who live in Melbourne and surrounding areas where Stage 4 restrictions are applied.

At the Premier's press conference today (Friday), there were some welcome changes with regards to the Sacrament of the sick and dying be ministered to those who live within the Stage 4 restrictions zone. Where an Anointing of the sick or a Last Rites could not be celebrated before, it's now a consideration and this gives great comfort to the sick or dying and their families.

In our regional context, we are thankful that the situation is a bit better, and that we would again be able to safely sit down at a Café for a cup of coffee or lunch with a friend soon.

I hope too that soon enough you would be able to come around to see the new presbytery. The move into the new presbytery at 72 Marine Drive, Torquay, has been completed. Allan and I love the space and we are very much enjoying living in the new house, and are so grateful to all parishioners, especially those who have helped make the build and the move possible.

In the next couple of days we will make available a short video capturing a building journey of 72 Marine Drive with the opportunity to make a contribution toward the landscape and furnishing costs, and I look forward to welcoming you all to my new home when we are able to do so safely.

With every blessing,

Fr Linh
Parish Priest