

One Day at a Time

Father Tim's Daily Reflections
during the COVID-19 crisis

Monday 30 March

Lenten weekday

1.10pm – A quick initial entry for today: the workers are outside refitting the broken church window with a more exact piece of plywood, after having removed asbestos sealant in the window frame. Then the leadlight man will come this week to measure the space for the new leadlight. He will have to come later to install the leadlight – this has been a mission just to repair one section of window!

I spoke with **Monsignor Entwistle** just now about how the new regulations will affect us going into Holy Week and Easter. It still doesn't make sense: only 2 for a gathering in church, but you can still have 5 for a wedding and 10 for a funeral, and workplaces and educational facilities can have as many as they want. For example, the mechanics shop class at TAFE in Northbridge has a room about 1/3 the area of our church, full of machines – and 13 students plus a teacher can be in there (our **Damien de Leiris** has sent me photos). But if we have Mass plus someone to operate the IT system, is that the two people permitted under the regulations? No reader or server or even concelebrating priest? Well, you know me: I'll find a way!

Now I'm driving to East Perth to pick up our IT man, **Arkar Daniels**. We have to shop for a few more bits for our system – I hope this is the end of it. I've been in shops every day the last week, full of people scrambling to get their components to stream their classes, etc. So I've been exposed to a lot of people. But I wash, I spray, I disinfect. And I live. (**Mike Camara**, our Brazilian acolyte who is stranded in Estonia of all places, sent me a wonderful audio message last week. He remembers that song our school students learned two years ago and sang at a parish-school Mass in church, so he quoted that: *"I am Catholic – I am alive!"* And that's the truth!