

Hi all, Hope you are all well and keeping safe.

Well half term is here and the weeks are flying by! Soon the clocks will "go back" and it will be the end of "summer time" and we will be back to "daylight saving time": spring forward and fall back, as the saying goes. It makes me think about time - this part of the year. The time, in the light is very precious: the dark time seems very long. In church the readings tell us that we have to "be ready" - prepared for anything that may happen. That seems more appropriate than ever THIS year with everything that has gone on and continues to go on. It would be easy to get very down and upset by what is going on. I find that nature can teach us a lot. I have some friends who run the Shire Horse Farm in Cotebrook, near Tarporley. In all of the difficulties that the current year has brought, on the farm life goes on. The mares still give birth to foals - this year more than ever; the sow gave birth to loads of wonderful piglets; the red squirrels still rush around their enclosure; the fox; the wildcat, the otters; guinea fowl; chickens and peacocks all carry on! Life with all the animals is full and exciting. They don't know anything about the virus or its effects. All they notice is that there may have been fewer visitors earlier in the year than normal. For Janet and Alistair who run the farm, they have had loads of headaches in trying to keep going and to make the farm ready and safe for opening but the new life that has come to the farm is a great joy. When Jesus talked to his friends he wanted them to be ready so that they would always be able to share all the things that he spoke about: joy, gentleness, peace, love: enjoying life to the full. At this time of year we hope that we will always be ready and full of happiness. We are a school and church family that are trying to live life to the full, respecting other people and being as caring and kind as we can. Lets hope, and pray, that all the people we meet will see that life and light of Jesus working through each and every one of us. Enjoy half term!

Keep safe, stay well, smile often, be kind to one another and, hopefully, see you all very soon.

Fr. Mike at Our Lady of Pity.