

**MESSAGE FROM FR TIM
TO
THE FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN IN OUR SCHOOLS
(BISHOP ETON, ST MARY'S MUCH WOOLTON, CARLTON HOUSE)**

30th April 2020

It is already six weeks since I made a dash around Bishop Eton and Much Woolton Schools (Carlton House had already had to close) to encourage the children to work with their parents in making a little shrine in their homes, which would become the focus for a short time of prayer each evening at 7 o'clock. The hope was that this would enable all our families to remain united throughout the challenging days that lay ahead. I have been truly heartened by the amount of encouraging feedback I have received and by the remarkable numbers that have also joined in the weekly Masses that I celebrate for you all and that are available online from Saturday evening (see the websites of both parishes, Bishop Eton and St Mary's Woolton).

In spite of all the grief and sadness, it would seem that some progress is being made in combatting the pandemic. However, it is probably going to be a good while before we are able to reassemble as Christian communities, which leads me to invite you to cultivate that virtue of perseverance, so special to our Redemptorist family (it is actually an extra vow that we take). So let's keep going with this simple programme of a little time of prayer each evening and our weekly celebration of the Eucharist. Many of you, like me, have said how much it means to you to know that we are united with one another in this way. Thank you for all the encouragement and be assured that the Redemptorists at Bishop Eton continue to pray for all your intentions each day.

Fr Tim (Parish Priest)