

Jubilee Hope

In our frantic, jaded world we can lose sight of wonder in the ordinary. There is nothing more wonderful than a human face, especially the face of a baby. You feel your obligation to a child when you have seen and held them. Every human face is a claim on us, because you can't help but sense the uniqueness of it, the courage of it. This is most true in the face of a n infant. Perhaps this is why God in his wisdom chose Jesus, born as one of us, to be the means, the face of our salvation.

The last year has seen us continue to build relationships of friendship and practical support in our neighbouring partnership parishes (Terenure, Templeogue, Kimmage Manor and Greenhills) As the number of priests available for ministry continues to diminish, we are finding new ways to co - operate more fully between the parishes of St Judes and St Pius in particular, in order to keep both our parishes vibrant and active. The 'Building Hope' pastoral initiative will continue its work of building our communities of faith, hope and love across the diocese.

The year ahead will be full of challenges and opportunities. Pope Francis has designated 2025 as a Jubilee or Holy Year with 'HOPE' as its central theme. May each one of us, our families and communities be renewed in hope during this year. 'Hope does not disappoint' (Romans 5:5).

Many thanks to so many people, staff and volunteers who give so generously and cheerfully of their time and gifts to make our parishes bloom. May each one of our parishioners find peace and rest this Christmas as we celebrate again the birth of hope, Jesus Christ.

Fr Pat