

Kensington Community News - March 2021

After what has seemed like an eternity, the first phase of the building works on the site of the former Heythrop College which is adjacent to the Kensington community's property, is finally underway. Work began with the expert removal of asbestos from the area which faces directly on to the Square, that will eventually become two town houses. Alongside this, another team of engineers were busy capping off the hot water pipes which run from our boiler into the old Heythrop building. The workmen have been very considerate and surprisingly not much noise has been heard, which meant we were able to continue with our prayers in the Chapel (how long that will last is anyone's guess).

However, what this means for us in the here and now is that sadly the 'funeral steps' and the steps that led to the Maria Assumpta Chapel from the garden have been cordoned off with some red and white stripy tape, which means they are now out of bounds. You can still access the Chapel from the garden by going via the main stairs.



Amidst all the hustle and bustle of the building works on the re-development site next door, and the restrictions placed on us by the Covid pandemic, our apostolic projects have been adapted and continue in the form of online events.

Spiritual accompaniment, Advent and Lenten retreats, participating in the Assumption UK Youth 'Lockdown Reflections' series and the university students Rosary group, are just a few of the many apostolic initiatives that the Kensington community have been involved with during the Covid crisis. Plans are also afoot to resume our 'Tutor Plus' project, which is an after school homework club for the children of the borough.

Alongside that we are doubling up our efforts to go greener by producing some home-grown fruit and vegetables. Sep, our maintenance man, and Will our gardener have been hard at work constructing some new vegetable troughs made from reclaimed wood which came from the old Heythrop site, next door.

Finally, you will be pleased to know that Tommy, our famous pet in residence, has been spotted in the garden after his long winter 'brumation' replenishing his energy levels in the lovely warm spring sunshine.

