



12 April 2019

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Dear all,

At this Easter season be assured of my prayers for you as we remember the events of that first Holy Week and Easter.

In my previous update I informed you about the next stage of my treatment. Over the last few weeks I have had time to recover from the chemotherapy and that has been very helpful. My radiotherapy begins on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> May daily for 8 weeks, Monday to Friday. As well as the radiotherapy I will be having six injections delivered 4 weeks apart. This treatment will finish in September. This is a new treatment for prostate cancer and is part of a clinical trial. I am very grateful for the many good wishes I have received, but am particularly thankful for the prayers of so many. I covet your continued prayers for this next stage of the journey. The prayers of so many have been such a blessing, as we have experienced deep peace and the presence of Jesus with us.

My sabbatical seems a long time ago as my focus ever since has been on my journey with cancer. In consultation with my publisher it has been decided to launch the book I wrote during my sabbatical, before my treatment recommences. The title is "The Jewel in the Mess". It is a reflection on the life and ministry of Jesus and how he came into the mess of the world but did not fix it. However, he brought blessing into the mess as He touched and changed lives. I also reflect on how today we are called to bring the blessing of Jesus into the mess of today's world. The date arranged for the launch is Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> May at 1:30, in the Spectrum Centre on the Shankill Road, Belfast. You will receive an invitation by e-mail in due course.

Be assured of my thoughts and prayers for you all at this very busy time in parish life.

Grace and peace to you,

+ Alan Connor

