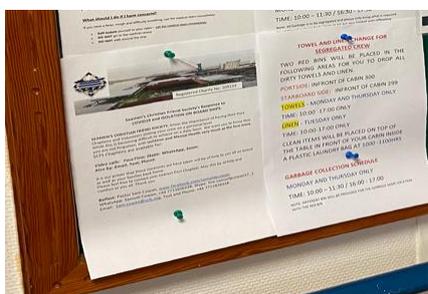


Easter Devotions on YouTube.

Towards the end of March, I was restricted in my ship visits, not only because my Father was ill and eventually died on Mother's Day. But it was becoming increasingly hard to visit due to restriction coming into force throughout the harbour.

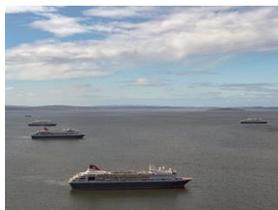
I was asked by SCFS Council to consider ways in which we could keep contact with individual as well as whole crews. I was able to draw up a flier which the Council agreed with and we sent it out so that SCFS Chaplains could use it in their own local situations as well.



This was then sent to all the agents in Belfast who agreed to forward it on to ships coming into the port. I was also able to send it to Larne and Warrenpoint as well.

As I thought about this and how the Cruise Season would have been starting, I decided to send the poster to cruise ships as well. After all, as a Society, we were fearful of the isolation and the white wall of fog (what seafarers call depression) could happen during this period of lockdown and uncertainty.

It was a great honour to receive an email from the Captain on board the MV Black Watch, one of Fred Olsen's Cruise ships, asking if I would do some devotions for the crew in the run up to Easter. The flier was also sent to Fred Olsen's Head Office, as well as Princess Cruises and then I made contact with Crystal Cruise ship the Serenity.



These devotions 11 so far have been recorded on YouTube and sent each morning to the Black Watch and I also understand from their Head Office that the devotions have also been sent to the other three ships in the fleet, the Braemar, Balmoral and Boudicca.

Due to my contacting seafarers through social media, I have also informed some who are at home in lockdown or onboard other ships and they have been watching them. I am grateful to the Captain of the Black Watch and the Crew officer on board the Crystal Serenity for the picture they have sent.



The devotions are played on a loop system on the crew channels as they are also complying with social distancing restrictions on board the ships. This means the crews can watch them in their cabins or the mess room when they have a break of free time at night.

Please pray; that the devotions will be of help and encouragement to the crews.

We praise God; that we have been asked to continue them as they are seen to lift the seafarers who have watched them and are of benefit to their morale.

Please pray; that God would direct me to the right passages to consider. I am looking at the Unshakable promises of God, next.

Thank God for this new opportunity in serving those still serving us at sea.

Thank you.