

 **A Word from Fr Jim**

My recent short trip to Italy brought me to Rome, Castlegondolfo and Nettuno,

 (Where I visited the Bianchi family who were my parents in Italy when I studied in Rome.)

In Castlegondolfo I discovered two interesting things.

Firstly, Pope Francis, unlike other Popes does not use it as his summer residence.

 He has now opened the Papal Residence to the public and the extensive gardens likewise.

These gardens are now called the “Laudato Si Gardens,” after his

ground breaking encyclical. Young people from disadvantaged backgrounds are taught the art of gardening here. Secondly, I never knew before that the Papal gardens were opened during the Second World War to refugees. This challenges the “Hitler’s Pope” name given by some to Pius X11 and calls us to look at how we in our time

 welcome the stranger and newcomer

Bookings for the Glenstal Pilgrimage (Sept 7th) are going well.

I especially welcome some of the newcomers to our parish to join us on this Pilgrimage.

 **With My Love & Blessing**

 **Fr Jim**