

Lord Jesus Christ,  
our Divine Physician,  
we ask you to guard and protect us  
and all people from the  
coronavirus and all serious illness.

For all who have died from it ,  
have mercy;

For all who are ill now,  
bring healing;

For all searching for a remedy,  
enlighten them;

For medical caregivers, helping the sick,  
strengthen and shield them;

For all working to contain the spread,  
grant them success;

For those afraid,  
grant peace of mind.

By your grace,  
may you turn the evil of disease  
into moments of consolation and hope.

We abandon ourselves into your  
infinite mercy.

Amen.

Thought for the Week  
5th July 2020  
15th Sunday in Ordinary Time

*Speak, Lord, your servant is listening:  
you have the message of eternal life*

I love the image that Isaiah gives of the Word and love of God in the first reading. The Word falls on us without favour and without our calling it. This Water of Life has the power to nourish us, refresh us and give us growth – it cannot but return to the Lord without doing what He has sent it to do.

Although very few of us are farmers I am sure that we can all relate to the Parable of the Sower in today's Gospel. Have you planted a packet of seeds and then found that none have germinated, or planted out some marigolds to discover in the morning that the slugs have eaten your carefully prepared plants? However, when your nurtured seeds or seedlings produce a crop of strawberries, tomatoes or colourful blooms then you truly feel that all your hard work was worth it.

The love of God is even more amazing than the Parable of the Sower lets on. For even if we are sometimes like the seed on the edge of the path and hear God's word without understanding it, or are on rocky soil and fall away when trouble comes, or another time are choked by the temptations of the world: still, we can be replanted, we can turn again to Jesus and he will welcome us and nurture us with the unconditional love he offers. We can then also be spreaders of His Word and co-workers in His fields.

Today's Gospel Acclamation summarises all that the readings hold and is a message for us to take into the week and into our hearts:

*“Speak, Lord, your servant is listening:  
you have the message of eternal life.”*

A Parishioner



## Prayers Please

Maddy Sharman has asked for our prayers.

Ildiko Toth's university friend, Mrs Szabo (nee Ildiko Baksai) is starting chemotherapy for secondary ovarian cancer.

For Ildiko Toth's god son, Basil and his wife, Sylvia to have a healthy second child. Sylvia is 7 weeks' pregnant.

Thank you for your prayers for Antonita's nephew Peppin who has left hospital after spending 102 days there, but he is still recovering from the coronavirus.

Please pray for Caroline Mikhail (daughter – in - law of Jane and Ramsay Mikhail) who suffered a stroke and has been taken into hospital in Plymouth.

Please pray for Ilona who has had a fall.

Please pray for Peter Bussell who has Alzheimer's disease and is now being cared for at The Order of St John Charitable trust in Wallingford

Please pray for Peter Halter's sister Jean who has macular degeneration and for Jean's great grandson Rogan who is 7 and has recently started chemotherapy for leukaemia.

Please pray for Ted Cotter (brother of Philomena) who has cancer and is undergoing chemotherapy.

Please pray for Irenka's sister Ludmila Morris who is a teacher and for all teachers as they continue to teach under difficult conditions

Please pray for children under stress.

Please pray for the residents and staff at the two nursing homes in our parish, Abbeycrest and St Luke's.

Please pray for all victims of the Coronavirus.



**Please also remember in your prayers those whose anniversaries occur at this time including;** John Allison, Frank Johnson, Jimmy O'Shea, Nan Oattes, Marjorie Wickens, Marsh Kirby, Claire Ryan, Catherine Cottrell, Nigel Drever, Ian Reid, Peggy and Arthur Evans, Dudley George James, Gladys Tomlinson,