

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
Sunday, 13th August, 2020
24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Matthew 18: 21-35

Fr Michael introduced last Sunday's readings by telling us they were about family bust-ups. Well this week's readings are about forgiveness.

"Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us"
"How often" asks St Peter: Jesus answers; *"Not seven, I tell you but seventy-seven times"* In other words a countless number.

CS Lewis in his book "Mere Christianity" suggests: *"Everyone says forgiveness is a lovely idea until they have something to forgive."* We all have grudges, but how ready are we to forgive?"

With the 75th Anniversary of the ending of the war, we have had remarkable accounts of forgiveness, but one that remains outstanding is Corrie ten Boom. Her autobiography "The Hiding Place" describes how her Dutch family helped the Jews to escape, but one day they were caught and were imprisoned.

After the war, she describes meeting a guard from the camp who was instrumental in her sister's death, and how difficult it was to shake his hand: but with a prayer to Jesus to help her to forgive him, she managed to lift her arm and found a current passing through her arm and a love for the guard.

Inspired by her sister's example of selfless love and forgiveness amid extreme cruelty and persecution, Corrie established a post-war home for other camp survivors trying to recover from the horrors they had escaped. She went on to travel widely as a missionary, preaching God's forgiveness and the need for reconciliation.

Our disagreements and problems with families, friends and neighbours seem so small in comparison.

Forgiveness of each other is inextricably linked with the forgiveness from our Heavenly Father.

"Forgive us our Trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us."

Stephen and Judy



Prayers Please

Maddy Sharman has asked for our prayers.

Please pray for the repose of the soul and consolation of the family of Ron Van Bree (brother of Eveline Dodd) who died recently.

Please pray for the repose of the soul and the consolation of the family of Sandra Antao (Sister of Dom) who died on the 30th August

Please pray for Sandra Gibbons who is having chemotherapy.

Please pray for Cecilia Fung, the mother of Fr Jojo. She has had a stroke.

Please pray for Timothy Kehoe, who is very ill.

Prayers please for Antonita's nephew Peppin who has been readmitted to hospital due to the coronavirus.

Please pray for Caroline Mikhail (daughter – in - law of Jane and Ramsay Mikhail) who suffered a stroke.

Please pray for Peter Halter's sister Jean who has macular degeneration and for Jean's great grandson Rogan who is 7 and has leukaemia. Rogan continues to need our prayers.

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

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; Joan Bredon, Donald Andrews, Johnny Gaudencio, Freda Miller, Esther Roman Zambrano, Serapharno Antao, Helenor Kizer, Minnie Tillotson, Winnie Hickey, John Warman, Florence Ada Gibbons, Arnold Fox.