

**Thought for the week**  
Sunday, 15th November, 2020  
33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

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.

I enjoy listening to Desert Island Discs on Radio 4 and a couple of years ago the guest was Edna Adan Ismail, who was born in 1937 and grew up in what was then called British Somaliland.

She became a midwife and her dream was to build a state of the art maternity hospital in her homeland.

*“I was born with a desire to fix things,” she says.*

Edna sold all her possessions to help fund the realisation of her dream and it took Edna over 50 years to achieve it. The hospital opened in 2002 and has since seen the birth of over 22,000 babies. Edna at the age of 83 is still working, still sharing her talents.

Her mantra, *“If I don’t do it, who will?”* reminded me of a meditation of Newman’s.

***“God has created me to do Him some definite service; He has committed some work to me which he has not committed to another.”***

So when we listen to today’s Gospel, the parable of the talents, perhaps we can ask ourselves,

“What service has been entrusted to me? What task will be left undone, unless I do it?”

We don’t have to panic and start thinking about establishing hospitals, but, we can look closer to home. In these challenging times of lockdown what talents can we share, who can we help, what role can we take on? Look out for your neighbour, call your elderly relative for a chat, help someone with their gardening, cook a meal for someone, give something from your cupboard to your local foodbank. Share your talents.

In the parable of the talents Jesus exhorts us not to waste what the Father has entrusted to each one of us. So, let us reflect on what talent each of us has been given and what may be left undone in our community unless each one of us plays our part.

It is important that we do not bury our talents.

A parishioner



## Prayers Please

Maddy Sharman has asked for our prayers.

Vera Bird has asked for our prayers for her Great, Great Grandson Harry

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 8 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;** Tess Lynch, Maureen Norris, Nicky Harris, Henry New, Nellie Barke, Frank Lawless, W.G. Williams and Theresa Hamilton,