

Thought for the Week  
21st June 2020  
12th 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.

This week's readings explore the themes of injustice and salvation. They depict how discrimination on grounds of belief have been prevalent for centuries; whether it is through verbal abuse or more subtle negligence. However, we also see that it was that same faith those in the readings were being persecuted for which helped them through their times of need: they called on God and were met with his benevolence.

Prejudice is not uncommon in our society, although we have advanced greatly from where we once were, times such as this prove we still have a lot further to go. People worldwide face injustices for reasons including age, ethnicity, disabilities and many more, but not everyone is able to receive the support they need. It is likely that some of us have been a victim of or witness to some form of discrimination, although we may not have the power to change someone's view point, we can stand with those who are affected. The first reading states that "*the Lord is at my side, a mighty hero*", so in the same way we should also stand by the sides of those who are in need of our help and provide support in any way we can.

Although there are small things we can all do to make a difference to our society, many changes are out of our control - and it is during such times when we have to rely on faith, to trust in God's plan which may be beyond our own understanding, but always know that

*"the Lord will deliver the souls of the needy from the hands of evil men"*.

Chimba Mubanga



## Prayers Please

Maddy Sharman has asked for our prayers as she has been hospitalized again in the Royal Berkshire hospital. Maddy has cancer.

Thank you for your prayers for Antonita's nephew Peppin who remains in hospital 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 for his daughter who is his main carer.

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 at a school open for keyworkers' children.

Please pray for children under stress.

Please prayer for all teachers — those still going into schools to give lessons to children with parents working on the frontline and those working out the technology to deliver their lessons from home.

Please pray for family and friends who work on the front line in the NHS and in the Care sector.

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



**Please also remember in your prayers those whose anniversaries occur at this time including;** Jimmy Curran, Sue Conners, Peter Spencer, Rosena Faultner, Elizabeth Tonner, Petra Zambano de Roman, Josph Cunningham, Norman Hutchinson, Frances Talkington, Babs Monaghan, Noel Moore, Marcus Fernandes, Rita Lavalette and Peter Perie.