

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**  
**The Solemnity of Pentecost**  
**23rd May, 2021**

This weekend we celebrate the great feast of Pentecost; the descent of the Holy Spirit and the start of the Church's mission to proclaim the Good News to everyone that God loves you, that Jesus saves you and Jesus is alive! This mission was only possible because the apostles encountered the Holy Spirit and were transformed from isolation into boldness. Today, individually and as a Church, we pray for the Holy Spirit to nurture and transform us.

But what does the Holy Spirit actually do when we encounter Him? Well, the Church reveals some of the mystery around the Holy Spirit in today's sequence the Veni Sancte Spiritus.

*Heal our wounds, our strength renew;  
On our dryness pour thy dew;  
Wash the stains of guilt away:  
Bend the stubborn heart and will;  
Melt the frozen, warm the chill;  
Guide the steps that go astray:*

In this hymn we invite the Holy Spirit into our lives to:

Cleanse that which is unclean,  
water that which is dry,  
heal that which is wounded.  
Bend that which is inflexible,  
warm that which is chilled,  
correct that which has gone astray.

We are all in need of healing, nurturing and being comforted and the Holy Spirit has been poured out in abundance to support us in the reality of our humanity. I simply invite you to take these few lines into prayer this week and stick with the one that speaks to you now.

For those who have families I recommend the song by contemporary Catholic worship collective 'One Hope Project – Glorious Encounter' (available on YouTube and Music streaming services) and allow the closing lyrics to be a simple prayer to the Holy Spirit to '*Come like rain, come like fire*'

***Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful!***



## Prayers Please

Please pray for Vivien Kear who has a tumour on her eye and is having Proton Therapy (a type of radiation) in June.

Please pray for Rita Lonsdale.

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.

Prayers please for Antonita's nephew Peppin who has long covid and has entered a rehabilitation centre where he is being helped to learn to walk and feed himself again.

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 leukemia. Rogan continues to need our prayers.

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;**  
Margaret Andrews, Jack Graham, Brian O'Dowd,  
Dan Mulrooney, Nancy Keogh, Joan Selway, Rita Worlex,  
Laddie Perl, Peggy Dodd.