

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
Fourth Sunday of Easter
25th April, 2021

Good Shepherd Sunday reminds me of my childhood. In our parish we had The Convent of the Good Shepherd. It was an integral part of our parish activities, as throughout the year we had fetes, feast day Masses and many processions to Our Lady, which the convent organised with our parish committee. These occasions were looked forward to by us all and were joyous times, not least because the nuns provided excellent teas!!! We had regular collections, both in church and house-to house on our estate for it.

As I got older I became aware of the actual mission of this convent. It became apparent to us all that there were many young women living in the convent who were NOT nuns; we realised they were young unmarried mothers. This was in the 50's and 60's.

So much has been written today about these establishments and the mistreatment the girls received at the hands of the nuns. As witness to this convent we never saw any mistreatment, the girls were all seemingly happy and cared for; I sincerely hope that we were not all hoodwinked to hide the truth. Many of the young women kept their babies and the UCM helped this happen.

The nuns were kind, friendly, caring and happy and the convent seemed full of love and laughter. I hope the girls felt the same. One young woman became the priest's housekeeper for many years.

Our parish felt we cared for these sheep as the Lord asks us to. The Good shepherd guides us to live according to the spirit, not the flesh; and produce love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness , gentleness and self-control. He is with us every step of the way.

“The Lord is at my side; I do not fear.

What can man do against me?”

Psalm 117



Prayers Please

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;

Sean Bannon, Julia Welemars and family, Norah Bourne, Edna Walsh, Peadar Farrell, Charles Halter, Mary Burns, Gilbert Lousley, Anne Ouro, Christopher Stone, Yvonne De La Harpe, Noman Morey, Robert Downs, Patrick Keogh, Marjorie Burge, Peter McCann, Tom Reilly, Gunter Plum, Eileen and Jo Mc Dermott, Edmund Bernard Pike.