

Prayer for the Diocesan Vision

Spirit of God,
descend on me this day.
Grant me the Spirit of joy, to lift me,
the Spirit of hope to inspire me,
the Spirit of love to surround me and
the Spirit of truth to enlighten my path.

Holy Spirit,
I pray for a new outpouring of your grace,
so that I may grow in worship of your name
in love of you in my prayer
and in my actions towards others.

Come Holy Spirit into my life to guide me.
Strengthen and defend me,
so that I may be drawn ever closer to you.
Help me this day and always
to be a channel of grace
in all I say and do
and invite others into relationship with you.

Amen

Thought for the week 13th Sunday of the Year 27th June, 2021

The readings today have a theme of God's touch. In the extract from Wisdom we are described as having been fashioned by Him and in the Gospel, both healing miracles involved contact between Jesus and the healed person.

Reflecting on the past eighteen months, touch – or rather the absence of it – has taken on a greater importance than previously in the lives of many people. The routine shaking of hands, pats on the shoulder, hugs or holding hands have been largely absent outside the immediate family. For those living alone, social distancing is more isolating and not feeling the touch of another human being for days or weeks is very hard. In our everyday meetings with friends or acquaintances this lack of physical contact has been difficult, but sometimes in times of illness or bereavement it has been traumatic.

The effects of the pandemic have not been felt equally. Some have been ill; some have lost their jobs; others have been happy to work from home while missing the camaraderie of the office; some have been working harder than ever before. Geographically there has also been a wide variation in the severity of the disease across the globe.

God's healing touch will be needed as life returns to more normal behaviour. The effects of isolation and loss will be with us for some time. Across the nation and the world there will be much work to do to rebuild and repair bodies, hearts and minds. After Jesus had restored Jairus' daughter to life he asked that she be given something to eat – perhaps to show that she was indeed alive and not a ghost – but maybe because she had been very ill and needed to be strong again. We can be the instruments of the recovery of our families, friends, neighbours and the wider world, but we need to ask that the power of God may act through us and touch others with healing.

A Parishioner



Prayers Please

Please pray for Jack Edwards

Please pray for Vivien Kear (Krissie's friend) who has a tumour on her right eye. She has now had the radiation therapy.

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;

Marcus Fernandes, Rita Lavalette, Peter Perie, Joan Griffin, Patrick Joseph Treacy, Ray Samuels, Norman Lousley, Audrey Monument, Bob Ryan, Pam Ryan, Bella Selwood, Doris Campbell, John Russell.