

Thought for the week
Sunday, 27th September, 2020
26th 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.

The mercy of God can be seen as one of the most powerful aspects of his nature, and in this week's readings we see the role it plays in people's lives. It could be argued that the act of mercy itself is not what holds the power, but instead the process in which one receives the mercy of God that determines where they will go when their time on Earth ends.

The act of mercy is defined as one who has the power to punish or harm showing forgiveness and compassion instead. Although this is typically addressed concerning our relationship with God, a parallel can also be drawn to us individually. As humans we make mistakes; in Christianity we are frequently taught to forgive others for their wrong-doing, but do we as easily forgive ourselves? We may have tendencies to dwell on our mistakes, allowing us to become self-deprecating in the way we think: it is times like this when we need to make a conscious effort to show the same mercy unto ourselves as we do others.

Regardless of what we have done, if we are willing to change our ways for the better, then God will show mercy. If we can forgive others and ourselves the same way God forgives us, we will grow as better people and "*shall certainly live*".

Chimba Mubanga



Prayers Please

Maddy Sharman has asked for our prayers.

Please pray for Sandra Gibbons who is having chemotherapy.

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 7 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; Mingul Antao, Daniel Jenkins, Peggy and Tony Brennan, Stephen Boyle, Helen Fox, Andrew Gray, Mike and May Quinn, Andrew Selwood, Eric Gillet, Margaret Morgan, Lyl Cattrell (Jnr), Annie Deeney.