

Thought for the week
Sunday, 30th August, 2020
22nd 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.

Being a leader can be a tricky thing! Leadership can be used well or abused with those in such positions confusing their role with their own significance within the grand scheme of things. Some look for privilege or an easy life as they pass on the work to those beneath them. Leadership requires hard work, can be misunderstood and may mean opposition.

In today's gospel Peter, who has been declared 'the rock' upon which the church will be built, refuses to accept that Jesus' mission involves suffering and death. It is as if Peter is reprimanding Jesus who in turn sets him straight in very direct terms! Peter receives a decisive rebuttal and is ordered back to where he belongs, that is, to follow Jesus not to challenge him in such a way. In contrast, if you track back a little way in Matthew's gospel to where the Canaanite woman patiently implores Jesus to see things from her position, Jesus ends up praising her for her persistence and faith, and heals her daughter. After his altercation with Peter, Jesus speaks to his disciples, inviting them to think about what they want. Jesus is the teacher and the disciples, like us, are the students. If we have really accepted the invitation to follow him then we have to live out our lives in the pattern of his life, suffering and all.

Like Peter it is so easy to put ourselves and our own interests first. Like Peter we need reminding of our pathway in life. It is never a bad thing to rethink our choices and reorder our priorities from time to time.

A Parishioner



Prayers Please

Maddy Sharman has asked for our prayers.

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 is responding well to his fortnightly treatment, but 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; Rachelle De Souza, Patrick Carroll, Diana Spencer, Jean Dwyer, Mother Teresa, Gwyn Stanton, Yvonne Aubrier, Anthony Fajer, Florence Ada Gibbons, Roger Selwood, Mina Findlay, Helen Newman, Nikki Wells, Margaret Aldworth, Claude Buike, Sean Smyth, Michelle Dobson, Deacon Francis Andrews, Marcus Luis Xavier Perreira.