

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
Sunday, 6th August, 2020
23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

In the past few weeks our community of St Michael's has been slowly getting back to what passes for normal. Activities such as shopping, working, exercise, dining out and meeting friends are also restarting, although not quite as usual. We are social beings and living at a distance from our various groups - work, family, church, does not come naturally. In my family, our latest grandson was born in March and we had to wait for weeks before we could give him a cuddle. Skype was no real substitute for direct contact!

We need the support that comes from others, even more than usual in these current times. We are lucky that so many in our local community have been prepared to reach out to help others by shopping, phoning for a quick chat and reassuring more vulnerable members. Teachers set up activities to enable my grandchildren to learn at home. The novelty of these soon wore off but it was the direct encouragement of parents.....and grandparents that resulted in the maintenance of learning over many weeks. Computers are useful, but are no substitute for teachers.

Jesus often withdrew from his disciples to pray, and our individual relationship with God is very important, but in today's Gospel, Jesus spoke to his disciples of the need to maintain strong relationships with each other for mutual support and encouragement. We cannot predict what might happen in the next few weeks and months, but we have shown that under very difficult conditions we can maintain and strengthen links both with each other and with other communities.

The message of reconciliation is entrusted to us.

A Parishioner



Prayers Please

Maddy Sharman has asked for our prayers.

Please pray for Sandra Gibbons who is starting chemotherapy.

Please pray for all children and teachers who are starting the new school year especially those at St Martin's school.

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; Ella Crab, Michael Parsons, Victor Rahal, Margaret Lawless, Rita Walker, Josefa Cano, Margaret Walter, Pay Walton, Peter Baylis, Freda Miller, Michael Rehberger, Victims of the Twin Towers NY, Alf Wade, Christopher Wade, Joyce Rebeiro.