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 11th Sunday of the Year 13th June, 2021

I hope that anyone who has had made even the basic attempt at growing plants can relate to the first reading this week- and the experts among us even more so perhaps.

And the pleasant surprise to find plants given up for dead springing back to life – I have several of these which I am now tending to with renewed interest.

The wonder of seeing a whole plant grow from a simple cutting reminds me of the many other creations around us-sometimes easily missed because they have always been there.

The gospel reading continues with the seeds and planting theme- rather apt for this time of the year. Despite the unusually cold April and wet May, most gardens are now in full bloom with plants appearing to have grown doubly so.

We too, like plants grow- physically. The readings today bring some assurance that it is the word of God planted in us that grows too-sometimes slowly, sometimes it lies there, seemingly dying, only to come back to life (do we not feel those 'dead' periods in life where everything takes so much more effort - and the relief when we get over it?)

We are assured in today's readings that somehow, the master gardener never gives up on our weak or withered periods. He continues to tend to us and gets us back to the 'green' nature we are meant to be.

The Lord has spoken and He will do it- for this we give thanks, even in our weakest state, knowing that the Lord will get us through.



Please pray for Vivien Kear who has a tumour on her eye and is having Proton Therapy (a type of radiation) in June.

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;
Brian Bird, Michael and Julia Keogh, Lily Weegan,
Bridie Burke, Mary Cunningham, Derek Graham,
Christine Coyle, Sue Conners, Kieran Cotter.