

Saint John Henry Newman

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where heart speaks to heart

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They were like sheep without a shepherd

Jesus's attitude in the Gospel of today's liturgy helps us to grasp two important aspects of life. The first is rest. ...

How many times this happens in the Church: we are busy, we run around, we think everything depends on us and, in the end, we risk neglecting Jesus. ... This is why he invites his disciples to rest a bit with him on their own. It is not only physical rest, but also rest for the heart.



However, the people find them and flock to them from all sides. At which point, Jesus is moved with compassion. This is the second aspect: compassion, which is God's style. ... How many times we find this phrase in the Gospel ...: "He had compassion on them." ... This seems to be a contradiction, but it is not. In fact, only a heart that does not allow itself to be taken over by hastiness is capable of being moved; that is, of not allowing itself to be caught up in itself and by things to do, and is aware of others, of their wounds, their needs. ... If we stay in touch with the Lord and do not anesthetize the deepest part of ourselves, the things to do will not have the power to cause us to get winded or devour us."

Pope Francis

Teas and Coffees – will be served this Sunday Morning after the 9 and 11am Masses on 21 July. Team A. Thank You to our Hospitality Teams.



“Do not cast me off in my old age”

(cf. Ps 71:9)

Pope Francis chose this sincere plea, from Psalm 71, as the theme for the Fourth World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly, 28 July 2024.

Reminding us that “God never abandons His children, never.” The Pope referred to the elderly as “the firm foundation” on which the “new” stones of family and Church can rest, (cf. 1 Peter 2:5).”

The Bible speaks to the particular concerns of our shared human experiences: “The certainty of God’s closeness at every stage of life and the fear of abandonment, particularly in old age and in times of pain, reflect an utterly evident reality. All too often, loneliness is the bleak companion of our lives as elderly persons and grandparents,” Pope Francis acknowledges.

“There are many reasons for this loneliness,” he continues, “in many places, above all in the poorer countries, the elderly find themselves alone because their children are forced to emigrate.” And he explains, that the “neglect of the elderly is not by chance or inevitable, but the fruit of decisions – political, economic, social and personal decisions – that fail to acknowledge the infinite dignity of each person, ‘beyond every circumstance, state or situation the person may ever encounter’.”

He cites the story of Naomi in the Book of Ruth, as a truer human and faith response. Naomi, who had grown old, urged her two daughters in law to leave her and return to their native towns and their homes. Naomi sees herself as a burden and considers it better to step aside.

One does as Naomi suggests. The other, Ruth, “does not leave Naomi’s side and, to her surprise, tells her: ‘Do not press me to leave you’ (Ruth 1:16),” the Holy Father writes. “Ruth is not afraid to challenge customs and inbred patterns of thought.”

The Holy Father’s Message concludes with an appeal: “In place of the self-centred attitude that leads to loneliness and abandonment, let us instead show the open heart and the joyful face of men and women who have the courage to say ‘I will not abandon you’, and to set out on a different path.”

Lourdes Petitions

Kath Maxwell has very kindly offered to take any prayer petitions with her when she takes part in the Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes. If you would like to include one, please place it in an envelope marked "Lourdes Petition" and hand it in next time to are at church.



Little Church

We are looking to recruit some **additional volunteers** to join the team. If you are interested, please contact an existing team member or speak with Fr Peter. We will arrange for you to discuss what is involved and be briefed on how things are done. We will also arrange for you to receive the required safeguarding advice and certification.



Warrington Prayer Group

This group which meets for an hour on Monday evenings has settled well into its new home here. Following the meeting on 29 July they will be taking a break for the month of August, resuming on Monday 2 September. You are very welcome to join at any time.



22 July – Feast of Saint Mary Magdalen *Apostle to the Apostles*

O God, whose Only Begotten Son entrusted Mary Magdalene before all others with announcing the great joy of the Resurrection, grant, we pray, that through her intercession and example we may proclaim the living Christ and come to see him reigning in your glory. Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen

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Sat 20 July	5.30 pm	Padraig Folan
Sunday 21 July	9.00 am 11.00 am	Margaret Dakin Intentions Eddie Griffiths
Mon 22 July	10.00 am 7.00 pm	David Forest RIP Warrington Prayer Group
Tue 23 July	10.00 am	Our Lady's end of School year Mass
Wed 24 July		No Service today
Thurs 25 July	6.30 pm 7.00 pm	Quiet Adoration James McNicholas RIP
Friday 26 July	10.00 am	Parishioners' Intentions

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Saturday 27 July	5.30 pm	Mary Wilkinson RIP
Sunday 28 July	9.00 am 11.00 am	Jennifer McCourt (Wedding Anniversary Remembrance) Maurice Chedwel RIP



KINDLY REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:

For those requesting our prayers: Barry Bennett, Marie Clowes, Harry Challoner, Margaret Daintith, Patricia Ditchfield, Harold Entwistle, Mary Finn, Tony Graham, Rita Hutson, Betty Leigh, Barbara Lynskey, Rita Mahon, Kathleen Mannion, Roger Maxwell, Marcos Sala, Vaughan Stone, Tony Wernham, Gordon Whittaker, & Carol Worsley.



Pilgrim Prayer (from the Camino of Saint James to Compostella)

O God, who brought your servant Abraham out of the land of the Chaldeans, protecting him in his wanderings, who guided the Hebrew people across the desert, we ask that you watch over us,

your servants, as we walk in the love of your name to Santiago de Compostela. Be for us our companion on the walk, Our guide at the crossroads, Our breath in our weariness, Our protection in danger, Our host on the Camino, Our shade in the heat, Our light in the darkness, Our consolation in our discouragements, And our strength in our intentions. So that with your guidance we may arrive safe and sound at the end of the Road and enriched with grace and virtue we return safely to our homes filled with joy. Amen