
NEWSLETTER

ALL SAINTS, SCRAPTOFT & NETHERHALL - April 2020

Love in a time of Covid-19

I am acutely aware of just what a difficult time this is for all of us, whether members of the Church or not. Our lives have been turned upside-down, put on hold or drastically altered as a result of the virus that is affecting the planet. This means that most people are naturally cautious and often frightened at what the prospects might be. The ramifications for the global economy are immense and certain parts of the world will suffer more than we because they don't have access to water with which to wash their hands and social distancing is so much more difficult.



I guess we have also become aware that this has brought out both the best and the worst in humanity. The greed and lack of concern for others shown in panic-buying has been a great sadness. As has the aggression it has brought out in some towards those trying to serve us - police, shop-assistants and NHS staff. The proliferation in scams from people pretending to sell medical supplies they don't have, emails from 'doctors' pretending to work for various health organisations asking for donations, and other fraudulent schemes have shown us just how low humanity can fall.

But there is the other side of the coin: hundreds of thousands of people volunteering to help in any way they can, to get food and medical supplies to those in greatest need, to provide a listening ear and simply a voice at the end of a telephone to those who are lonely. And there is, of course, the fantastic, sacrificial example of so many in the NHS who, despite being under-resourced before the virus came along, are battling heroically to do what they are called to do.

Despite the greed and selfishness of some, we have seen the greatest things that come out of human beings: **compassion and love**. And there are other 'good' things arising from this: the carbon emissions in many areas of the world are decreasing because so many flights have stopped, so many car journeys cannot be taken and certain types of production have ceased. We have a crucial opportunity during this time of isolation, when we cannot do what we would normally be doing, to spend some time seriously thinking about the world in which we live - how it operates, what is healthy and what is not. Our world is a precious gift from God, we are all precious gifts to each other, let us try to be mindful of this as we learn to live in a different way during the coming weeks and months. And may we learn to exhibit more compassion and love to everyone around us - the love and compassion whose greatest exemplar is Jesus Christ, who gave his life so that we might have life.

So I pray you will stay safe and cared for and hold you all in my prayers every day.

Father Tarkin

Stations of the Cross

Here is a simple form of Stations for you to follow at home.

Before each station:

We adore you, O Christ and we bless you, because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

After each station:

O Saviour of the world, who by your cross and precious blood have redeemed us, save us and help us, we humbly beseech you, O Lord.

Help me to walk with you, Lord, and teach me to learn from your example so that I may come to the life of the Resurrection. **Amen.**

1. Jesus is condemned to death

John 19: 4-16

You would have no power over me unless it have been given you from above.



2. Jesus takes up his Cross

Matthew 11: 29-30

Take my yoke upon you and learn from me.

3. Jesus falls for the first time

Isaiah 53: 6-12

He bore the sins of many and made intercession for the transgressor.

4. Jesus meets his mother

Luke 2: 22 - 35

"...and a sword will pierce through your own soul."

5. Simon helps Jesus to carry his Cross

Isaiah 52: 14

Without beauty, without majesty we saw him, no looks to attract our eyes.

6. Veronica wipes the face of Jesus

Isaiah 53: 2-5

He was despised and rejected by men.

7. Jesus falls for the second time

Hebrews 5: 7-10

Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered.

8. Jesus consoles the women of Jerusalem

Luke 23: 27-32

Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me, but weep for yourselves and for your children.

9. Jesus falls for the third time

Romans 7: 15-25

I see in my members another law at war with the law of my mind.

10. Jesus is stripped of his clothes

John 19: 2-24

They parted my garments among them and for my clothing they cast lots.

11. Jesus is nailed to the Cross

Luke 23: 33-43

Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do.

12. Jesus dies on the Cross

Matthew 27: 45-54

Jesus cried with a loud voice and yielded up the spirit.



13. Jesus is taken down from the Cross

Matthew 27: 55-58

A rich man took the body of Jesus, and wrapped it in a clean linen shroud.

14. Jesus is laid in the tomb

Mark 15: 42-47

...and laid him in a tomb which had been hewn out of the rock.

Christ was humbler yet even to accepting death, death on a Cross. But God raised him on high and gave him the name which is above every name. (Phil 2: 8-9)