

James's Street Parish

01-4531143 - Working with Francis Street and Meath Street Parishes



29th Sunday – Mission Sunday – 22 October 2023

MAY WE BE NEIGHBOURS TO WAYFARERS OF OUR TIME — FRANCIS



On Thursday evening, Pope Francis led a prayer vigil to remember the plight of migrants and refugees and the call to save them, heal their wounds, and help them contribute to society to build a better world marked by fraternity and peace. The Pope led the “Moment of Prayer for Migrants and Refugees” with the participation of refugees from Cameroon, Ukraine, and El Salvador. The vigil took place before the large sculpture in St. Peter's Square called the “Angels Unawares” monument, a life-size sculpture in bronze and clay that depicts a group of migrants and refugees from different cultural and racial backgrounds and from diverse historic periods in time.

The Pope shared some reflections during the brief prayer vigil while also marking a moment of silence to remember all those who have lost their lives along the different migration routes. Recalling the theme of the Good Samaritan heard in the reading from Luke's Gospel at the vigil, the Pope said the parable shows us how to move from a closed to an open world, from a world at war to one at peace. The dangers facing travellers from Jerusalem to Jericho in ancient times are like the unsafe migration routes facing people today who travel through hostile deserts, forests, and seas, the Pope observed. So many are robbed, stripped and beaten, often deceived by unscrupulous traffickers, the Pope said, to then be “sold like commodities.” The dangers facing migrants and refugees today are stark he went on to say as they risk kidnappings, exploitation, torture and rape with many not surviving before reaching their destination.

Sadly, he noted, even in these days we witness how people are fleeing war and terrorism. Recalling the witness of the Samaritan who took notice and pity on the man lying at the side of the road after being beaten by bandits, the Pope said “he saw the wounded man and had compassion on him,” saying “compassion is the imprint of God in our hearts.” And from that moment, the wounded man began to recover thanks to the “foreigner” who helped him. “Like the Good Samaritan, we are called to be neighbours to all the wayfarers of our time, to save their lives, to heal their wounds and to soothe their pain. For many, tragically, it is too late, and we are left only to weep over their graves, if they even have a grave. Yet the Lord knows the face of each of them, and he does not forget it.”

The Pope said the Good Samaritan's actions went beyond simple charity and consisted of four verbs that marked his service: welcome, protect, promote and integrate. His immediate care for the man extended into a long-term responsibility, as he returned to make sure he was fully recovered while making it possible for him. He added that the long term opportunity of this solidarity leads to “the growth of more inclusive, more beautiful and more peaceful societies.” Another action we could all undertake is to “strive to make the road safer, so that today's travelers do not fall victim to bandits,” the Pope added, saying more efforts are needed to counter the criminal networks “that exploit the hopes and dreams of migrants.”

Courtesy Thaddeus Jones - Vatican News

The Tenters Remembered

Following on from the success of Tenters 100 - the centenary year celebrations to mark the building of the Fairbrothers Fields Tenant Purchase Housing Scheme, a new local heritage group - The Tenters Celebrated - has been formed. The group has also just published a beautiful new collection of stories from the area. <https://libertiesdublin.ie/the-tenters-remembered/>



Oscar Wilde

Join actor Michael Judd on a spirited and entertaining journey from Dublin to Paris via London and New York recounting the wit, triumphs, and tragedy of Oscar Wilde! Venue: St Catherine's Sports Centre, Marrowbone Lane. Date: Wednesday 25th October starting at 6pm sharp. Light refreshments will be served.



Our Lady's Choral Society

Presents John Henry Newman's poem 'The Dream of Gerontius' set to music by Edward Elgar, on October 29 in the National Concert Hall. This is one of the most popular works in OLCS repertoire. Choir and soloists accompanied by the RTE Concert Orchestra with Proinnsias O Duinn



Aware

If you or those with whom you work wish to connect with people in relation to your mental wellbeing, consider using Aware's phone-in and Zoom support and self-care groups, support line or support mail. For more information, visit www.aware.ie

29TH SUNDAY - MISSION SUNDAY

Penitential Rite

As we begin, rejoicing in Jesus our Lord, let us remember God's goodness.

You raise us to new life in your life. Lord have mercy

You are the source of our joy and hope.
Christ have mercy

You send us to be your witnesses in the world.
Lord have mercy

May our gracious God have mercy on us, forgive us our sin, and bring us to life everlasting. Amen

Isaiah 45:1. 4-6

Thus says the Lord to his anointed, to Cyrus, whom he has taken by his right hand to subdue nations before him and strip the loins of kings, to force gateways before him that their gates be closed no more: It is for the sake of my servant Jacob, of Israel my chosen one, that I have called you by your name, conferring a title though you do not know me. I am the Lord, unrivalled; there is no other God besides me. Though you do not know me, I arm you that men may know from the rising to the setting of the sun that, apart from me, all is nothing.

1 Thessalonians 1:1-5

From Paul, Silvanus and Timothy, to the Church in Thessalonika which is in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ; wishing you grace and peace. We always mention you in our prayers and thank God for you all, and constantly remember before God our Father how you have shown your faith in action, worked for love and persevered through hope, in our Lord Jesus Christ. We know, brothers, that God loves you and that you have been chosen, because when we brought the Good News to you, it came to you not only as words, but as power and as the Holy Spirit and as utter conviction.

Alleluia, alleluia!
You will shine in the world like bright stars because you are offering it the word of life. Alleluia!

Matthew 22:15-21

The Pharisees went away to work out between them how to trap Jesus in what he said. And they sent their disciples to him, together with the Herodians, to say, 'Master, we know that you are an honest man and teach the way of God in an honest way, and that you are not afraid of anyone, because a man's rank means nothing to you. Tell us your opinion, then. Is it permissible to pay taxes to Caesar or not? But Jesus was aware of their malice and replied, 'You hypocrites! Why do you set this trap for me? Let me see the money you pay the tax with.' They handed him a denarius and he said, 'Whose head is this? Whose name?' 'Caesar's' they replied. He then said to them, 'Very well, give back to Caesar what belongs to Caesar - and to God what belongs to God.'

Prayer of the Faithful

God our Father and Mother, your love gives us a new vision for our lives. We thank you. Lord hear us

Lord Jesus, you are the Living Word made flesh, challenging us to live your vision. We thank you.
Lord hear us

Holy Spirit of God, your wisdom shows us that the Mission of Jesus is our Mission also. We thank you. Lord hear us

We remember, with joy and thanksgiving, all those who have died. We are mindful of God's saving love which brings them to new and everlasting life. Lord hear us

For all in our world, who are marginalised, especially the homeless and those forced to sleep rough, for those whose lives are blighted by violence and war. May they find in us your compassion.
Lord hear us

For our politicians, that they may have the courage to challenge those who stand in the way of equality of opportunity and justice for those who cannot speak for themselves. Lord hear us

In silence, we call to mind all who need our support and prayer.....Lord hear us



Too many are marginalised
Too many live in poverty
Too many live with violence
Too many live without Hope

Reflection

Anger and intolerance are the enemies of correct understanding. The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others. You must be the change you wish to see in the world. But service can have no meaning unless one takes pleasure in it. When it is done for show or for fear of public opinion, it stunts the man and crushes his spirit. Service which is rendered without joy helps neither the servant nor the served. Service rendered for its own sake is the noblest of all. Humankind becomes great exactly in the degree in which we work for the welfare of all people. A man who was completely innocent offered himself as a sacrifice for the good of others, including his enemies, and became the ransom of the world. It was a perfect act.

Mahatma Gandhi