

ROYAL PRESTON HOSPITAL CATHOLIC CHAPLAINCY NEWSLETTER MAY 2014 ISSUE 9

1ST May 2014

Message from the Chaplain

Welcome to the May edition of the Chaplaincy newsletter. I hope that your Easter celebration went well and you are all refreshed in the Lord's resurrection.

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Many thanks to all those who attended the day of reflection at Ladyewell Shrine, I hope that you all enjoyed the day and felt that it was worthwhile. If you have any comments I would be happy to receive them via email or in person.

Hospital Radio

As you may be aware both Chorley and Royal Preston Hospitals have a radio station that the patients can listen to daily. This radio station in the past has been run from Chorley Hospital serving also the Royal Preston Hospital. Recently each hospital has become responsible for the broadcasting of its own radio station.

In the past the Mass from St Joseph's parish in Chorley had been broadcast each Sunday morning, but with the split there is no longer a Mass broadcast at the Royal Preston Hospital.

The good news is that this situation will be shortly resolved and the Mass from St Clare's parish will be broadcast on a Sunday morning on the hospital radio. There are a number of tests that need to take place before this is up and running, which will take place over the coming weeks. My hope is that we will be broadcasting mid-May.

I will keep you informed with regard to developments so that you will be able to let the patients know when we are up and running.

Hospital Radio

Reflection on Hospital Ministry called to heal continued

Ministers to The Sick: Lay and Priestly

"If one member suffers in the body of Christ, which is the Church, all the members suffer with him/her" (1 Cor. 12:26)

All baptised Christians share in this ministry of mutual charity within the body of Christ: through physical care, love shown to the sick, and by celebrating the sacraments of the sick. The family and friends of the sick and those who care for them have a special share in this ministry of comfort.

Although the whole Christian community is responsible for ministry to the sick some people are especially called to this ministry. The word "minister" in Latin means "servant". Each person carries out the ministry in his or her unique way. There are special roles of laity and priest in ministering to the sick and dying but all ministers are servants of the Lord, instruments of God's blessing and presence. The coordination, training and commissioning of ministers is an essential part of providing sound pastoral care. Those gifted with the special qualities to minister to sick children and their families or in crisis situation should be encouraged.

The person who experiences sickness with its attendant isolation, fears, guilt and powerlessness, can discover life and hope in the people around them. To be this kind of Spirit-gift to the sick our wisdom must exceed that of Job's advisers in the Bible. Job's friends were obsessed with WHY illness and tragedy was happening to him. Job himself remained focused on his relationship with God. From this came his healing in body and Spirit.

The complexity and mystery of suffering means that 'ministry' is not in one direction.

Suffering, and caring for the suffering, are two parallel and mutually dependent apostolates that draw their nourishment directly from the gospel, and make Christ present in our world. (Cardinal Edward Clancy)

The community must be mindful that the sick and frail minister to us all, especially those who have the privilege of caring for them. The challenge is to widen our awareness of how they are already doing this, and how they may be invited to do so more deeply and inclusively. We need to create a sense that the sick and frail still belong to the parish family. They embody, in a real way, the presence of the suffering Christ in our midst. They reach out to support the community through their redemptive suffering, their prayer for others and gifts of the Spirit.

Family, friends and the whole of the Christian community gather together and rejoice in the presence of the healing Christ. For this reason communal celebrations of the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick at "Anointing Masses" are particularly appropriate for the faithful.

Like all sacraments, the Anointing of the Sick is a liturgical and communal celebration, whether it takes place in the family home, a hospital or a church for a single person or a whole group of sick persons. It is very fitting to celebrate it within the Eucharist; the memorial of the Lord's Passover God offers the anointed person the grace to be healed and comforted, to overcome anxiety and despair and to be made whole. It is an affirmation for Christians that they are supported in their suffering, and that there are others who care about them in their time of need.

May scripture readings and reflections for Sunday's Year A

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER 4th May 2014

Office: Psalter Week 3 Readings: Sunday: Cycle A: Weekdays: Year 1
1st Reading Acts of the Apostles 2:14 22-33; Psalm 15 1-2, 5, 7-11; 2nd Reading 1st Letter of St Peter 1:17-21; Gospel of St Luke 24:13-35

The Gospel passage set before us today presents one of the Post-Resurrection appearances of Jesus. This time it is to the two disciples on the road to Emmaus. The basic outline of the Mass is observable in this encounter. First of all Jesus explains the scriptures to them, heightening their sense of his presence. But it is in the 'Breaking of Bread' where they finally recognise him.

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER 11th May 2014

Office: Psalter Week 4 Readings: Sunday: Cycle A: Weekdays: Year 1
1st Reading Acts of the Apostles 2:14, 36-41; Psalm 22:1-6, 2nd Reading 1st Letter of St Peter 2: 20-25; Gospel of St John 10: 1-10

Good Shepherd Sunday is the traditional title given to today. It springs from the Gospel, for on this Sunday of Easter we are always reminded of the shepherd-like qualities of Jesus Christ. Also by tradition, it is a special day of prayer for vocations to the priesthood. We need to ask God to provide us with holy priests

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER 18th May 2014

Office: Psalter Week 1 Readings: Sunday: Cycle A: Weekdays: Year 1
1st Reading Acts of the Apostles 6: 1-7; Psalm 32: 1-2, 4-5, 18-19, 2nd Reading 1st Letter of St Peter 2: 4-9; Gospel of St John 14:1-12

There is so much meat in today's Gospel passage – a feast for everyone. Jesus assures us that there is room for everyone in the Father's House. He tells us that he is the 'way' to that house (and the truth and the life). He reminds us that he is the perfect reflection of the Father: to see him is to see the Father. Our goal as Christians is to reflect to the world the image of Christ.

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER 25th May 2014

Office: Psalter Week 2 Readings: Sunday: Cycle A: Weekdays: Year 1
1st Reading Acts of the Apostles 8: 5-8, 14-17; Psalm 65: 1-7, 16, 20; 2nd Reading 1st Letter of St Peter 3: 15-18, Gospel of St John 14:15-21

The scene is being set in today's Gospel for the coming of the Holy Spirit. Jesus uses a lovely name for him: 'The Advocate,' that is the one who speaks up on our behalf. God is on our side, when the entire world seems to be ranged against us – God is on our side!

Chaplaincy Activity 2014

April Total

Total	1067
Gone Home	18
Total	1049
Chat	352
Prayer	160
H/C	336

No Interested	4
Not Seen	197

Total	852
Other Visits	0
	81%

Chaplaincy Activity 2013

April Total 2013

Total	892
Gone Home	24
Total	868
Chat	210
Prayer	94
H/C	378

Not Interested	7
Not Seen	179

Total	689
Other Visits	0
	79%

Worship in the Chapel

Friday 2nd May 2014

Holy Mass 17:15

Monday 5th May 2014

NO MASS

Friday 9th May 2014

Holy Mass 17:15

Monday 12th May 2014

Holy Mass 17:15

Friday 16th May 2014

Holy Mass 17:15

Monday 19th May 2014

Holy Mass 17:15

Friday 23rd May 2014

Holy Mass 17:15

Monday 26th May 2014

Holy Mass 17:15

Friday 30th May 2014

Holy Mass 17:15