

Reflection and Prayers
30th Sunday in Ordinary Time



The Gospel today centres the message of Jesus on love; on two loves united in each of us. Love God, love the neighbour - this is the only commandment of Jesus. Without this, all we say we do for him is really done for ourselves. No detail of religious observance is above this law of love. Jesus said this, and lived it in his life. He never allowed the laws of religion overtake the need for love. The message of Jesus is all-embracing and covers all our relationships, both the close relationships of marriage, family and friendship, as well as the call to love the wider world, particularly where the needs are great. (Excerpt from Sacred Space)

Dear Parishioners, we rejoice in the love of God made known to us in Jesus Christ. Let us pray that God will strengthen us in faith and send us as messengers to share Christ's love with all in need.

We pray for the church and its leaders, Pope Francis and our Bishop Anthony, that they may preach the word in truth and inspire us by their example of service, **we pray to the Lord:**

For the whole Body of Christ, all the baptised everywhere, that we live the message of the Gospel and when we fail, rejoice in the gift of forgiveness, **we pray to the Lord:**

For leaders of nations, cities, and states, that a spirit of wisdom, charity and justice may prevail and that their decisions strengthen the common good, **we pray to the Lord:**

For those who are dear to us but are not present among us, that we may hold them in our heart and mind and that they may be surrounded by Christ's loving care, **we pray to the Lord:**

For the sick, that they may be comforted in their suffering, and for all who care for them, that they may be agents of the healing and life-giving Holy Spirit, **we pray to the Lord:**

For the gift of creation, that we may use its resources rightly and be wise stewards of its abundance, **we pray to the Lord:**

Gracious and loving God, may our lives bear witness to the mercy and grace made known in your Son, Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.