

Weekly Theme

W/C 7th November 2016



“Belonging to God’s family”

Luke 20:27-38

Some Sadducees, who believed people would not rise from the dead, came to Jesus. They asked, "Teacher, Moses wrote that if a man's brother dies and leaves a wife but no children, then that man must marry the widow and have children for his brother. Once there were seven brothers. The first brother married and died, but had no children. Then the second brother married the widow, and he died. And the third brother married the widow, and he died. The same thing happened with all seven brothers; they died and had no children. Finally, the woman died also. Since all seven brothers had married her, whose wife will she be when people rise from the dead?"

Jesus said to them, "On earth, people marry and are given to someone to marry. But those who will be worthy to be raised from the dead and live again will not marry, nor will they be given to someone to marry. In that life they are like angels and cannot die. They are children of God, because they have been raised from the dead. Even Moses clearly showed that the dead are raised to life. When he wrote about the burning bush, he said that the Lord is 'the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob.' God is the God of the living, not the dead, because all people are alive to him."

The whole of the human race is one family. This was made clear when Jesus asked us to call God "Abba" a word which means "Daddy" or "Father". This family, with God at its head, is absolutely vast, including not only those who live on planet earth at this moment in time but all those humans who have ever lived – to whom, of course, in some way or other, we are all related. In the Catholic tradition we call this the "Communion of Saints" which explains why holy people of the past (saints) are asked to speak to God for us. We also pray for those who have died as well.

Next **Sunday 13th November** we will celebrate **Remembrance Sunday**.

This week we pray particular of all those who have lost their lives in the service of our country. We pray also for their families, as well as for those who lives have been changed as a result of injury whilst serving their country in the armed forces.

Prayer

Father of the human family you created our planet and each of us to give you glory and praise.

May we support and help each other as we learn to love and praise you.

Amen

Form Tutor

This week we would like to focus on Remembrance, and in particular for those who have, and who still are losing their lives through war in the service of their country. There are lots of excellent resources available on the British Legion Website which I am sure you will find very useful.

Day One

Tutor:

Read Scripture

Student Prayer:

For they shall grow not old as we who are left grow old. Age shall not weary them nor the years condemn. At the going down of the sun and in the morning, we will remember them.

Amen.

St John Plessington
Pray for us

This prayer comes from the poem "For the Fallen", honoring the British war dead of World War I and published in The Times newspaper in September 1914

Day 2

Think about: The society in which we live.

Tutor:

How many times have we crossed the road or looked the other way to avoid, somebody holding a collection box for a charity? Have you bought a poppy to wear on Remembrance Sunday? Did you help support those who have died or been injured in serving our country?

Student prayer

Dear Lord, today our prayer is very simple. Help us to be generous.
Amen.

St John Plessington
Pray for us

Day 3

Think about the world in which we live.

Tutor:

Today, think about all the organisations in our world who work for peace. Can you name any?

Why not try to find out how the British Legion uses the money it raises from the Poppy Appeal.

Student Prayer

Dear Lord, let there be peace on earth and let it begin with me.

Amen

St John Plessington
Pray for us

Day Four

Think about our college community

Tutor

Have you ever thought about what the words "Justice" and "Peace" really mean?

Have you ever thought about joining a justice and Peace group? Why not find out more about these groups and the campaigning that they undertake.

We would like to start a Justice and Peace Group here in SJP. Would you join? If so please speak to Gerard.

Student Prayer

God our loving Father, let me play my part bring about justice and peace in our world and let me begin here in our college community.

Amen.

St John Plessington
Pray for us.

Day Five

Think about our families

Tutor

Today we would like you to think about families who have a Husband or a Wife, a Son or a Daughter who are currently serving in our Armed Forces. Many people in our college community have a member of their family serving in the armed Forces in troubled regions of the world. What must it be like to let someone you love being in danger each day that they are away from you?

Student Prayer

Lord, today be with all who worry about a loved who is serving their country in the troubled parts of our world. Bring them comfort and hope.

Amen

St John Plessington
Pray for us

Other Prayers you may wish to use this week

The hand of the Lord is gentle,
and though we cannot understand,
He comforts with his gentle hand.
The hand of the Lord is loving,
and though it seems our hope is gone,
His love brings strength to carry on.
The hand of the Lord brings healing,
and though our hearts are filled with pain,
His healing hand brings peace again.

God be in my head
and in my understanding;
God be in my eyes,
and in my looking;
God be in my mouth,
and in my speaking;
God be in my heart,
and in my thinking;
God be at my end,
and at my departing.

Amen.

Heavenly Father,
you have not made us for darkness and death,
but for life with you for ever.
Without you we have nothing to hope for;
with you we have nothing to fear.
Speak to us now your words of eternal life.
Lift us from anxiety and guilt
to the light and peace of your presence.,
and set the glory of your love before us;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

