



St John Plessington Catholic College

Daily
Collective Act of Worship



We gather in the presence of God.
We bless ourselves as we say:
In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen



Sunday's Gospel -The Parable of the Persistent Widow
18 Then Jesus told his disciples a parable to show them that they should always pray and not give up. 2 He said: "In a certain town there was a judge who neither feared God nor cared what people thought. 3 And there was a widow in that town who kept coming to him with the plea, 'Grant me justice against my adversary.'

4 "For some time he refused. But finally he said to himself, 'Even though I don't fear God or care what people think, 5 yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will see that she gets justice, so that she won't eventually come and attack me!'"

6 And the Lord said, "Listen to what the unjust judge says. 7 And will not God bring about justice for his chosen ones, who cry out to him day and night? Will he keep putting them off? 8 I tell you, he will see that they get justice, and quickly. However, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on the earth?"

Meaning of the gospel story- It is asking us to be patient, '*pray always and do not lose heart.*' Our prayers will be answered, maybe not in the way we are expecting, but answered in the way that is beneficial to us.

A Prayer on International day of Eradication of Poverty
Lord Jesus,
You understand what it is like to be hungry.
Teach us to have grateful and generous hearts.
Forgive us when we make selfish choices
or remain silent in the face of injustice.

Lord Jesus,
You welcomed all to your table.
May we recognise our interconnectedness,
with our common home and our global neighbours,
so all are invited to share the feast.

Lord Jesus,
You come to us as bread and wine.
Fill us with your compassion.
Nourish us as we advocate for change,
and seek to make your Kingdom a reality in our world.
Amen.

Theme for International Eradication of Poverty day
<https://www.un.org/en/observances/day-for-eradicating-poverty>



Don't forget to collect **form donations** this week towards the Wirral food bank

St John Plessington
Pray for us



St John Plessington
Catholic College

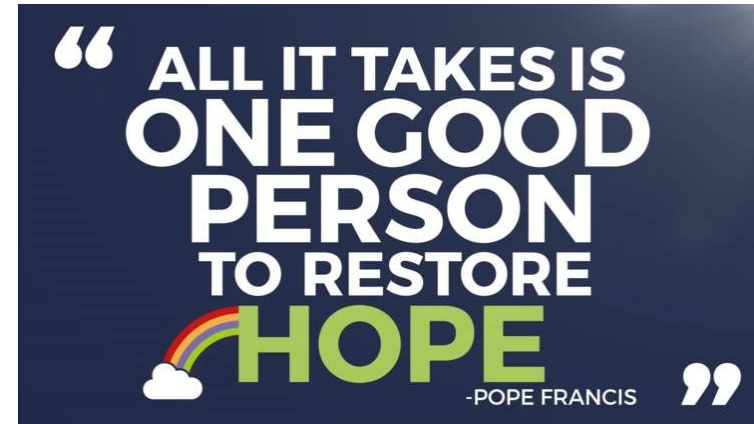
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Never Give Up Hope Prayer
God, we put our hope on you. Our expectations that you will do great things in our lives are our anchor in difficult times. Lord, never let us give up hope that difficult times and situations will end one day. Father God, strengthen us. We can do all things through Jesus. We pray in the name of Jesus, Amen.



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Pray for us

CAFOD – World Food Day video
<https://cafod.org.uk/Education/Secondary-and-youth-resources/Food-resources-young-people>



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Saint Josephine Bakhita Prayer
You remained strong and brave through years of cruelty.
You did not become bitter, but used your knowledge and experience in helping to prepare Sisters who were going to work in Africa. Your gentle manner brought peace and strength to all. Help us to have courage when times are hard; help us to be strong and supportive to anyone in need; help us always to remain close, as you were, to Jesus, and show his love to all.
Amen. St John Plessington Pray for us



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A story of hope
St Josephine was born in Sudan into a loving family. She describes her early childhood as “a happy and carefree life, without knowing suffering”. However, at about eight years old, Josephine was kidnapped by some Arab slave traders, who had previously kidnapped her elder sister. Over the next eight to ten years, she was forced to walk barefoot for miles, and was bought and sold on several occasions. These years of slavery were terrifying and .She saw and experienced how suffering, destroyed people, physically, mentally and emotionally but she never gave up hope. She was eventually taken to Italy, which as a country, did not recognise slavery so Josephine was free. It was here she was baptised in 1890, she joined the Canossian Sisters in 1893. As an African woman with a deep sense of compassion, who knew, loved and understood her country and its people, and who had endured brutality, slavery and oppression, Josephine was uniquely equipped to help and advise the Sisters who were going to serve in Africa. She is a role model and symbol of hope for all those who live with suffering on that continent. As one writer said: “**Her mind was always on God, her heart in Africa.**”

St Josephine Bakhita

Feast Day
8 February

Birthplace
Darfur, Sudan

Born
1869 (approximately)

Died
8 February 1947

Canonised
1 October 2000 by Pope John Paul II

Patron saint of
Sudan and South Sudan



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A Prayer for Ukraine –
Loving God,
We pray for the people of Ukraine,
for all those suffering or afraid,
that you will be close to them and protect them.

We pray for world leaders,
for compassion, strength and wisdom to guide their choices.

We pray for the world
that in this moment of crisis,
we may reach out in solidarity
to our brothers and sisters in need.

May we walk in your ways
so that peace and justice
become a reality for the people of Ukraine
and for all the world.

Amen.



Vladislav's story – A story of hope
<https://cafod.org.uk/News/International-news/Ukraine-crisis-update>