

Novena to Mary Untier of Knots

Day 3 – Sunday 22 October - Undoing the Knot of ill health and suffering

Opening Hymn: Love Divine all loves excelling - *Hymn No.12 on separate white Hymn sheets*

Welcome and Introduction

Reminder of our Knots - *Opportunity to place knotted ribbons in basket*

Daily Novena Prayer to Mary, Untier of Knots – *see words on white Novena Hymns sheet*

Bishop: God our loving Father, as we gather in the name of your Son we ask for healing. We pray that in this Sacrament we may today meet with Jesus who took pity on the sick. We make our prayer through the same Jesus Christ Our Lord. Amen

A Reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans (8:18-27)

I think that what we suffer in this life can never be compared to the glory, as yet unrevealed, which is waiting for us. The whole creation is eagerly waiting for God to reveal his sons. It was not for any fault on the part of creation that it was made unable to attain its purpose, it was made so by God; but creation still retains the hope of being freed, like us, from its slavery to decadence, to enjoy the same freedom and glory as the children of God. From the beginning till now the entire creation, as we know, has been groaning in one great act of giving birth; and not only creation, but all of us who possess the first fruits of the spirit, we too groan inwardly as we wait for our bodies to be set free. For we must be content to hope that we shall be saved – our salvation is not in sight, we should not have to be hoping for it if it were – but, as I say, we must hope to be saved since we are not saved yet – it is something we must wait for with patience.

The Spirit too comes to help us in our weakness. For when we cannot choose words in order to pray properly, the Spirit himself expresses our plea in a way that could never be put into words, and God who knows everything in our hearts knows perfectly well what he means and that the pleas of the saints expressed by the Spirit are according to the mind of God. The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Hymn: Psalm 41: Like the deer that yearns for running streams - *Hymn No.13 on separate white Hymn sheets. **Our choir will sing the verses and we all join in response.***

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke (7:19-23)

John, summoning two of his disciples, sent them to the Lord to ask, 'Are you the one who is to come, or must we wait for someone else?' When the men reached Jesus they said, 'John the Baptist has sent us to you to ask, "Are you the one who is to come or have we to wait for someone else?"' It was just then that he cured many people of diseases and afflictions and of evil spirits, and gave the gift of sight to many who were blind. Then he gave the messengers their answer, 'Go back and tell John what you have seen and heard: the blind see again, the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, the dead are raised to life, the Good News is proclaimed to the poor and happy is the man who does not lose faith in me.' The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you Lord Jesus Christ

Homily

Bidding Prayers

Bishop: The Spirit comes to help us in our weakness. With confidence we bring the needs of all those who are suffering before the Lord

Reader:

- For those who suffer in body, mind or spirit, that even in suffering, they may see more clearly the face of Christ who seeks to bind our wounds and to anoint us in our affliction. Lord hear us. **All Respond - Lord graciously hear us**
- For the stability of our National Health Service: that all who go to hospital, or reside in care homes might be given the service and attention they need; and that all who minister there might do their work with skill and patience. Lord hear us **All R**
- We pray for doctors and nurses and other health professionals. We pray especially for those from other countries who care so devotedly for our loved ones who are sick and infirm. Lord hear us **All R**
- For healthcare chaplains, and Ministers of Holy Communion, that they may be given the grace to walk closely and faithfully with the sick and suffering, and imitate in thought, word and action the compassion of Christ. Lord hear us **All R**
- For people with disabilities in our society who are fearful for their futures because of cuts in benefits and services; may we, and all those in authority, have a true concern for the needs of those who are vulnerable and disadvantaged. Lord hear us **All R**

We pray with Mary, Health of the Sick, who brings our needs to the attention of her Son: **Hail Mary....**

We bring our silent petitions to the Father...

Bishop: God, open our eyes, that we might recognise and respond to human suffering. Give us a deep love for you that we might see your love at work in this world, and that we might go and do likewise. We ask this through Christ our Lord. **All: Amen**

Anointing of the sick

Bishop: Lord God, you have said to us through your apostle James 'Are there people sick among you? Let them send for the priests of the Church, and let the priests pray over them anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord. The prayer of faith will save the sick persons, and the Lord will raise them up. If they have committed any sins, their sins will be forgiven them.'

Lord we have gathered here in your name and we ask you to be among us to watch over our brothers and sisters who seek healing and peace at your hands. We ask this with confidence for you live and reign for ever and ever.

Amen

Bishop: My brothers and sisters, in our prayer of faith let us appeal to God for our brothers and sisters:

Come and strengthen them through this holy anointing: Lord have mercy

Lord have mercy

Free them from all harm: Lord have mercy

Lord have mercy

Free them from sin and all temptation: Lord have mercy

Lord have mercy

Relieve the sufferings of all the sick here present: Lord have mercy

Lord have mercy

Assist all those dedicated to the care of the sick: Lord have mercy

Lord have mercy

Give life and health to our brothers and sisters on whom we lay our hands in your name:

Lord have mercy

Lord have mercy

The Bishop and priests silently lay their hands on the heads of the sick persons

Prayer of Thanksgiving over the Blessed Oil

Bishop:

Praise to you, God the almighty Father. You sent your Son to live among us and bring us salvation. **All: Blessed be God who heals us in Christ**

Praise to you God the only begotten Son, you humbled yourself to share in our humanity and you heal our infirmities. **All: Blessed be God who heals us in Christ**

Praise to you God the Holy Spirit, the Consoler. Your unfailing power gives us strength in our bodily weakness. **All: Blessed be God who heals us in Christ**

God of mercy, ease the sufferings and comfort the weakness of your servants here present whom the Church anoints with this holy oil.

All: Amen

Anointing

The bishop anoints the forehead and the palms of the hands of each of the sick people saying these words:

Through this holy anointing may the Lord in his love and mercy help you with the grace of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen

May the Lord who frees you from sin save you and raise you up

All: Amen

During the anointing we sing the following hymns as time allows:

Immaculate Mary (Lourdes Hymn) - Hymn No. 5, **Lay your hands** - Hymn No. 14, **Healer of my Soul** - Hymn No. 15,

Final prayer

Father in heaven, through this holy anointing grant your servants here present comfort in their suffering. When they are afraid give them courage, when afflicted give them patience, when dejected afford them hope and when alone assure them of the support of your holy people. We ask this through Christ our Lord. **All: Amen**

Bishop: The Lord be with you

All: And with your Spirit

Bishop: May the blessing of almighty God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit come down upon you and remain with you forever.

All: Amen

Daily Novena Hymn: Hail Queen of Heav'n, the Ocean Star – see *Hymn No.1 on separate white Hymn sheets*

Thank you for coming to our Novena - Please feel free to take this copy service sheet away with you