

Let us pray

Jesus, you are the Bread of Life.
You feed us with your love in so many different ways!
Multiply the simple gifts of our life, our lives, so many barley loaves:
the daily routines, the humdrum *stuff*, the ordinary ups and downs.
Transform all of them into a feast of special gifts in which we see your presence.
Teach us the miracle of sharing and caring and rejoicing
in simple gifts of Love.
Amen.

June 2014



Bar Convent Chapel in York circa 1800

We pray with the Church and the World

From the words of Pope Francis: *All children must be able to play, study, pray and grow, in their families, this in a harmonic context, in love and serenity but these people instead of playing are slaves, and this is a plague. This is their right and our duty. A serene childhood allows children to look with confidence towards life and tomorrow. Woe to those who stifle them in their joyful enthusiasm of hope!*

A change of attitude towards migrants and refugees is needed on the part of everyone, moving away from attitudes of defensiveness and fear, indifference and marginalization – all typical of a throwaway culture – towards attitudes based on a culture of encounter, the only culture capable of building a better, more just and fraternal world.

World Day Against Child Labour is observed on June 12th. Hundreds of millions of girls and boys throughout the world are engaged in work that deprives them of adequate education, health, leisure and basic freedoms. More than half are exposed to the worst forms of child labour such as work in hazardous environments, slavery, illicit activities such as drug trafficking and prostitution, as well as involvement in armed conflict.

World Refugee Day is observed on June 20th each year and is dedicated to raising awareness of the situation of refugees throughout the world. Refugees are forced to flee their homes because of war, conflict and persecution. The statistics are chilling in every way and call us to not only pray, but be involved in advocacy and activity.

We pray with the Institute

On June 11th in 1814 Teresa Ball entered the Novitiate in York. It was the Feast of Corpus Christi and some of the story is recorded in Joyful Mother of Children. At her profession she took the motto *Misericordias Domini in aeternum cantabo* (The mercies of the Lord I will sing forever). Take time on this June 11th to give thanks for the inspiration, courage and faith of Frances Mary Teresa Ball.

In these challenging times in church and society, let us seek from God the inspiration, courage and faith that each one of us needs to be disciples of Jesus, *ready to give our lives freely in the service of God*.

We pray for all elected members, ex-officio members and invited participants as they prepare for the General Congregation in September. May our God who bends over the earth breathing life into our lives, bless all of us with energy.

One Small Voice

For those who love God
everything works out for good because God has chosen us
to bear the image of Jesus, his Son.
With God on our side, who can be against us?
Even if we face hard times or are threatened ~
God's love is greater still,
and nothing can ever separate us from God's love.
Through all difficulties we can never be failures or losers
because of the power of God's love.

Based on Romans 8:28-39