

SUNDAY PLUS



LIVERPOOL 2018
ADOREMUS

Spread the word!

Need to know

by Frances Murphy

The ability to communicate with the whole world is now something that we take for granted. When the most popular personalities on social media can share a thought or image instantaneously with over one hundred million people at the touch of a screen, sending a message to “the ends of the earth” does not seem too daunting a task. Battery life is now effectively the limiting factor in our efforts to communicate.

Logistically, then, bearing global witness to Christ is not a challenge – we have mastered the tools to deliver the message, but mastering the content of the message is a different thing altogether. Consider that Jesus’ instruction that his disciples be his

witnesses at the ends of the earth only came after he asked them to be the same in their local and neighbouring communities. They were not just to set their sights as far and wide as they could, but to find ways of sharing the good news with their neighbours. The person next door might need to know Christ as much as anyone a hundred or a thousand miles away, at the receiving end of my tweet. And the chances are that my neighbour will be better placed to recognise me as an ambassador of Christ and come to know him through me... or not, as the case may be.

We have the technology. Let us use it to show people the Holy Spirit working through us to build the kingdom.

Frances Murphy is Editor of Thinking Faith, the online journal of the Jesuits in Britain.

Tell the world

by Eileen Cole

The signs of faithfulness that Jesus gives sound astonishing – and these things still happen today. We cast out devils when we fight against the evil inclinations of our heart, which destroy life. We speak in new tongues when we communicate with others in a new way, because we speak the same language, the language of love. Deadly poison will not harm them: there are many things that poison life together, such as gossiping, which destroys both relationships between persons and others’ good name. If we live in the presence of God we will avoid this and not be disturbed by this poison. They cure sickness; wherever there is a clear and lively awareness of God’s presence, there is also a special care given to people

who are excluded and marginalised, especially those who are sick. To feel accepted and loved helps people to be cured. These signs all spread the word.

Eileen Cole is a Media Officer with the Catholic Bishops’ Conference of England and Wales.



Lord, give me the courage to proclaim from the rooftops that I love you with all of my heart and my soul. Amen.

Proclaim the Gospel

by Raymond Friel

The disciples in today’s readings get quite a hard time. Throughout Mark’s Gospel, which was probably the first Gospel to be written, around AD 70, the disciples struggled with what was going on. They really weren’t getting it. They hadn’t met anyone like Jesus before. It says earlier in the Gospel that they were amazed and afraid. Even after the resurrection Jesus “upbraided them” for their lack of faith. In the Acts of the Apostles, there’s an almost comical moment after Jesus has ascended into heaven. The disciples are standing there, mouths open, staring into the sky. It says that two men in white robes, or angels, had to come along to break

the trance. “Why do you stand looking up toward heaven?” they say. In other words: there’s work to be done. By now, the penny has dropped and we’ve got some idea of why God became human. He had good news for us and now it’s down to us to spread the word.

Raymond Friel’s several books and CDs are available from Redemptorist Publications: www.rpbooks.co.uk

“**The only way to love as Jesus loved is to continuously step out of our own ego, and go out in the service of others.**

Pope Francis

Today:
Acts 1:15-17, 20-26
1 John 4:11-16
John 17:11-19

Monday:
Acts 1:15-17, 20-26
John 15:9-17

Tuesday:
Acts 20:17-27
John 17:1-11

Wednesday:
Acts 20:28-38
John 17:11-19

Thursday:
Acts 22:30; 23:6-11
John 17:20-26

Friday:
Acts 25:13-21
John 21:15-19

Saturday:
Mass in the Morning:
Acts 28:16-20, 30-31
John 21:20-25

Next Sunday:
Acts 2:1-11
Galatians 5:16-25
John 15:26-27; 16:12-15

