

Looking Forward



Looking Forward in Faith

May God bless you with discomfort, at easy answers, half-truths and superficial relationships, so that you may live deep within your heart.

May God bless you with anger, at injustice, oppression and exploitation of people, so that you may work for justice, freedom and peace.

May God bless you with tears, to shed for those who suffer pain, rejection, hunger and war, so that you may reach out your hand to comfort them and turn their pain into joy.

And may God bless you with enough foolishness, to believe that you can make a difference in the world, so that you can do what others claim cannot be done, to bring justice and kindness to the poor.

Amen

6th February 2023:

In Matthew's Gospel, Jesus says :
"You are the salt of the earth."



Отче наш, Ти що еси на небесах

Отче наш, Иже еси на небесех

John Almond 1577-1612

He spent his childhood at Much Woolton, Lancashire (now Woolton, Liverpool) until the age of eight. It is reputed that he was a student in the old school building which can be found in School Lane, Woolton, before he was taken to Ireland. He went to the English College in Rome, at the age of twenty, where he was ordained as a priest, returning to England as a missionary in 1602. He was repeatedly arrested, and executed at Tyburn in London in 1612.



St Paul Miki and Companions: 6th February

Paul Miki was born into a wealthy Japanese family. He was educated by the Jesuits and joined them becoming a well known and successful preacher. The ruler of Japan began persecuting Catholics for fear of the Jesuits' influence and intentions. Miki was arrested and jailed with his fellow Catholics, who were later forced to march 600 miles from Kyoto to Nagasaki; all the while singing the *Te Deum*. He was crucified, preaching his last sermon from the cross, he forgave his executioners. Crucified alongside him were Joan Soan (de Gotó) and Santiago Kisai, also of the Society of Jesus; along with twenty-three other clergy and laity, all of whom were canonized by Pope Pius IX.

"Youth is meant to help others know the Lord."

(Pope Francis, Convocation of the Renewal of the Holy Spirit - 2014)



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