

Parish of St Peter and St Paul

ARCHDIOCESE OF WESTMINSTER

THE PRESBYTERY
Fr. IVANO MILLICO, PARISH PRIEST
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14th Sunday in Ordinary Time (B) 4th July 2021

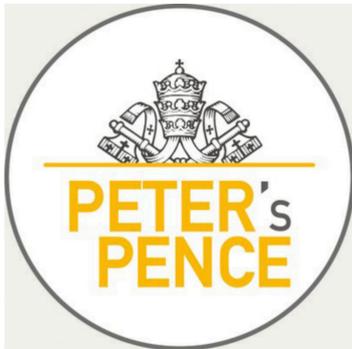
SUNDAY MASS: Sunday 9:45am & 12noon

WEEKDAY MASS: Monday & Friday 12.30pm; Tuesday & Wednesday 8am
(no Mass on Thursdays, and no Vigil 6:30pm Saturday Mass, for the time being)

CONFESSIONS on Mondays from 11.30-12.15pm (and on request)

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**next Sunday 11th July at 9:45am
we will celebrate the First Holy Communion
of Frank, Luana and Matthew**



Peter's Pence is the name given to the financial support offered by the faithful to the Holy Father as a sign of their sharing in the concern of the Successor of Peter for the many different needs of the Universal Church and for the relief of those most in need.

Peter's Pence has a dual aim: 1) support for the universal mission of the Successor of Saint Peter, who, for this purpose, makes use of a group of offices called the Roman Curia and more than one hundred Pontifical Representatives throughout the world; 2) support for the charitable works of the Pope on behalf of those most in need.

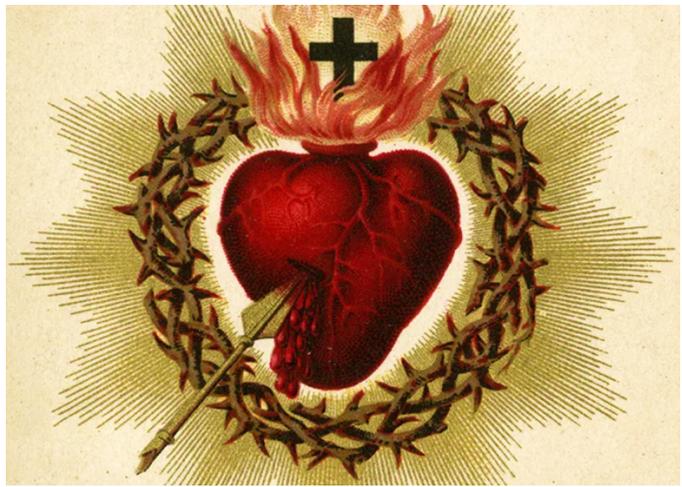
this second collection will be taken TODAY

NOTE: Please, make your best to arrive in Church before Mass begins. You need to 'track & trace', sanitise your hands, and find appropriate seating. All this takes extra time. Try to arrive at least 10mins before Mass begins. Thank you. Fr. Ivano

Your weekly offering



healthy or sick?



How are your affections? Are they sick or are they in good health?

Yes, your affections. Do you lack love? Are you able to love?

“What is the greatest illness of my life?” – asked Pope Francis last Sunday. Cancer? Tuberculosis? The pandemic? No.

The greatest illness of life is lack of love; it is not being able to love.

Since we are made for love, when our affections are sick, we suffer tremendously and we make other people suffer too. This is why, continued Pope Francis, **“the healing that counts the most is that of our affections”**.

How do you know the health condition of your affections?

Since we were made for love, in each one of us – writes Saint Thomas Aquinas – operates something like a law of *ekstasis* by which the lover ‘goes outside’ the self to find a fuller existence in another person. For this reason, man & woman always have to take up the challenge of moving beyond himself & herself. In this way affections stay healthy for they draw us out of ourselves and towards others.

We are so made that we cannot live, develop and find fulfilment except in the sincere gift of self to others. Nor can we fully know ourselves apart from an encounter with others. No one can experience the true beauty of life without relating to others. This is part of the mystery of authentic human existence. “Life exists”, writes Pope Francis, “where there is bonding, communion, fraternity; and life is stronger than death when it is built on true, healthy relationships and bonds. On the contrary, there is no life when we claim to be self-sufficient and live as islands: in these attitudes, death prevails”.

Our relationships, when healthy, open us to others who expand and enrich us. Authentic and mature love and true friendship can only take root in hearts open to growth through relationships with others. As married couples or as friends, we find that our hearts expand as we step out of ourselves and embrace others.

Saint Thomas Aquinas describes the love made possible by God’s grace as a movement outward towards another whereby we consider “the beloved as somehow united to ourselves”.

Love, ‘healthy love’, is more than just a series of loving actions!

Those actions have to have their source in a movement, a union increasingly directed towards others, considering them of value, worthy, pleasing and beautiful apart from their physical or moral appearances. Our affection for others, our love for others, for who they *are*, moves us freely to seek their good.

Father Ivano