

We must seek to share the love and justice of Jesus with all peoples, especially those living on the margins of society.

He once said, **“It is not enough simply to open the door in welcome, but we must go out through that door and meet the people!”**

People often disassociate themselves with those on the streets. They are labelled as being those who may have made bad life choices, beggars / on drugs or in some cases just lazy and should go back to where they came from. We sometimes pre-judge them even before asking ourselves, what their story is, how did they get there and perhaps how can I help?

In any city or town around the world, this group of people living on the streets have become part of the fabric of the scenery. We look pass and without giving much thought see a traffic light, street lamp, homeless man, garbage bin, trees, fire hydrant, etc. The question begs, do we see a human being who was once loved and can be loved, who has been through so much and is in need of a listening ear / a hug / a shoulder to cry on, or someone who has hopes and dreams equal if not greater than ours ?

Jesus came to bring salvation to the poor, the captives, the blind and the oppressed (Luke 4:18). He served those on the margins, offering God’s grace to all in need. If we profess to follow Jesus, we ought to imitate His example. To see the humanity in everyone we come across, to reach beyond our comfort zones, **seeing and serving people** who are not necessarily in our parish communities and our immediate circles. We must seek to **share the love and justice of Jesus** with all peoples, especially those living on the margins of society.

Take a drive by night in our town, perhaps to the deserted places, the five foot walkways of shophouses, look under the bridges or flyovers and look out for the homeless. It’s an invitation to us, to begin the mission of Jesus.

“ To love another person is to see the face of God!” - Les Misérables ❖

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INTERNAL CIRCULATION ONLY

BUL 36/2023

2 & 3 September 2023

Newtbec

NEW WAY OF BEING CHURCH

22nd Ordinary Sunday

SALT OF THE EARTH AND LIGHT OF THE WORLD:

COMMUNION (INCLUSIVE), PARTICIPATION (CREATIVE) & MISSION (BRIDGE BUILDING)

MONTHLY FOCUS:

**CHURCH AND PEOPLE
LIVING ON THE MARGIN**

FOCUS EVENT:

**WORLD DAY OF
MIGRANTS AND REFUGEES**

10 years ago, Pope Francis told the clergy in Brazil to leave their comfort zones and smug surroundings and **to reach out to serve the poor and needy** saying, “We cannot keep ourselves shut up in parishes, in our communities, when **so many people are waiting for the Gospel,**”

Pope Francis is known for communicating his heart with those living on the margins and fringes of society, especially his concern for reaching out to those on the streets.

