

GATHERING POINT 2

DEUS CARITAS EST



SESSION SUPPLEMENTS

How can/do you love the people you do not know?

- Pray for people in certain groups or situations (e.g. All those who are ill or suffering, all those who are affected by disaster etc.)
- Donate to or volunteer with charities that help different people you may never meet
- Take part in a pay-it-forward scheme at a local coffee shop or store

Who is your neighbour?

- Anyone else whom we meet or interact with
- Everyone in the world - we are all children of God

What does the Pope mean by saying that closing our eyes to our neighbour blinds us to God?

By ignoring our neighbours, we are ignoring those who God dearly loves, and we are neglecting to show love to Him through them. God desires us to love our neighbour, so by failing to do so, we are failing to do His will.

How does "love grow through love"?

Even the smallest of actions can have a big impact - even if you don't see the end result. Your kind word or action could set off a chain reaction that results in a whole series of loving actions in the world.

In what way is love "divine"?

Love is divine because it comes from God. It is the very essence of who and what God is.

Who needs a Good Samaritan?

- Anyone in difficulties - health, financial, circumstance, clothing, food, property
- Anyone who is having a bad day/week/month and who could use a friend
- Anyone who is struggling to do things on their own

How does the parable of the Good Samaritan help us to understand the Pope's words?

The Pope says that anyone who needs help is our neighbour - this is exactly what the Good Samaritan showed in the parable, because he showed that even though the robbed man was from a place which shunned Samaritans, he was still someone who needed help.

How do the Pope's words help us to understand the parable of the Good Samaritan?

We have been asked to love our neighbour - the parable shows us that it doesn't matter who the person is, if they need help, then they are your neighbour. The Pope's words serve to clarify this by highlighting the fact that everyone is our neighbour, and we should give our help when it is needed.

How can you show love for the person you do not like or know?

- Pray for them
- Say something nice to them
- Do something nice for them
- Give up your time or resources to put towards someone or something else that would benefit from your sacrifice