Sisters of Jesus Way



Spring Newsletter 2026

Our dear Friends,

The winter seemed to be long, dark and wet, but now spring is underway. The sun is glistening on the estuary, the robin is singing from the treetop, the garden Sisters have been out with their trowels and kneeling pads, the bumblebees are about exploring, the fresh, soft green leaves are coming out on the beech trees, the daylight lasts longer and longer, and suddenly hope is alive once more.

Everywhere we've looked recently, hope has caught our attention. So what do we think about when we see the word 'hope'? Looking at the mess in the world today and in ourselves just brings despair. Looking to Jesus and building our lives on Him, the rock, the anchor, brings that living hope, only found in Him. As we celebrated Easter recently with our visitors, we were very aware of the Lord Jesus, by His Holy Spirit, touching each one of us in a special way. We travelled together through Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Holy Saturday, experiencing something of the many different emotions that the first disciples must have felt: sadness, fear, confusion, disappointment – and then through to the joy and amazement of Easter Day, meeting Jesus alive, indeed, *full* of life, no longer dead but risen, miraculously conquering sin, death and Satan, promising us the gift of eternal life both now and continuing on into heaven with Him.

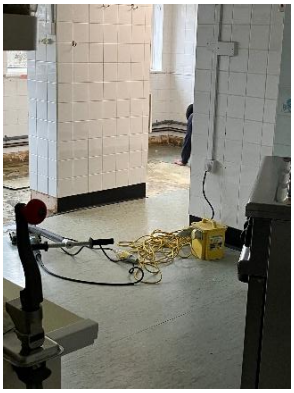
An old hymn came to mind when we began thinking about this theme:

My hope is built on nothing less
Than Jesus' blood and righteousness.
I dare not trust the sweetest frame,
But wholly lean on Jesus' name.
On Christ the solid rock I stand;
All other ground is sinking sand,
All other ground is sinking sand. *(Edward Mote, 1834)*

As we continue on our pilgrimage through life, may we all experience a renewed and certain hope built on Jesus, our rock, our anchor, the same yesterday, today and forever. We finish this reflection with two verses of scripture:

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In His great mercy He has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade. This inheritance is kept in heaven for you. (1 Peter 1:3-4 NIV).

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Now for our Community news. In March, we had a big upheaval at Redacre for a few days as we had the flooring in the main Kitchen replaced. The existing vinyl had been in place for at least 30 years and had started cracking up. To replace it, all the kitchen equipment – cooker, fridges, workbenches, dishwasher, water boiler etc. – needed to be disconnected and moved out of the way into the Yard, Dining Room and Shalom Corridor, and then reinstalled afterwards. Around the same time, our friendly tree surgeons came and cut back the 22 large beech trees on our Praise Path. This needs to be done every five years or so to stop them



getting out of hand and obscuring the views. We also had an external wall treated at the corner of the house, a small outside wall repaired, a soffit board replaced and an old shelter behind Bethany refurbished. A couple of weeks later, we had some telephone engineers coming to lay new cables on our site, and then returning to set up a new telephone and intercom system, which we are still learning to get our heads round! The technology for the previous system had unfortunately become obsolete. Meanwhile in Bethany, two rooms also recently had new vinyl flooring! As we write, we are dealing with an unexpected major water leak. By the time you read this letter, all this disruption should have settled down. Again, we must say how thankful we are to the Heavenly Father for providing in advance the means to do this necessary work.

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As usual, we are enclosing with this newsletter our Celebration Leaflet, with details of special events between now and December (if you receive the letter by email, the leaflet will have been sent out separately). Ascension is a very special season when we glimpse afresh the heavenly glory of Jesus. This year we are offering a Quiet Day to reflect upon this theme. Then in July we have another Quiet Day, a time to be still in the midst of busy lives. As with the last two years, we have scheduled in a Summer Barbecue in August and aim to have our marquee back in situ for this event. It seems a long way off, but our regular Advent Weekend takes place at the end of November, when we focus once more on Jesus' coming. Then the year ends with our ever-popular New Year Retreat which includes a Watchnight Service and a celebration dinner.

We close our letter with a blessing from Paul's epistle to the Romans:

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. (Romans 15:13 NIV)

With love from us all,

Sisters of Jesus Way and Brother of the Way.



Sisters of Jesus Way, Redacre, 24 Abbey Road, West Kirby, Wirral, CH48 7EP.
Tel: 0151 625 8775 E-mail: sistersofjesusway@redacre.org.uk
Website: www.redacre.org.uk

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