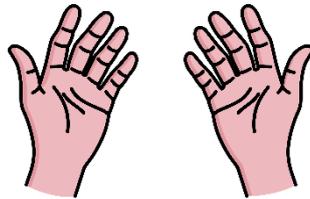
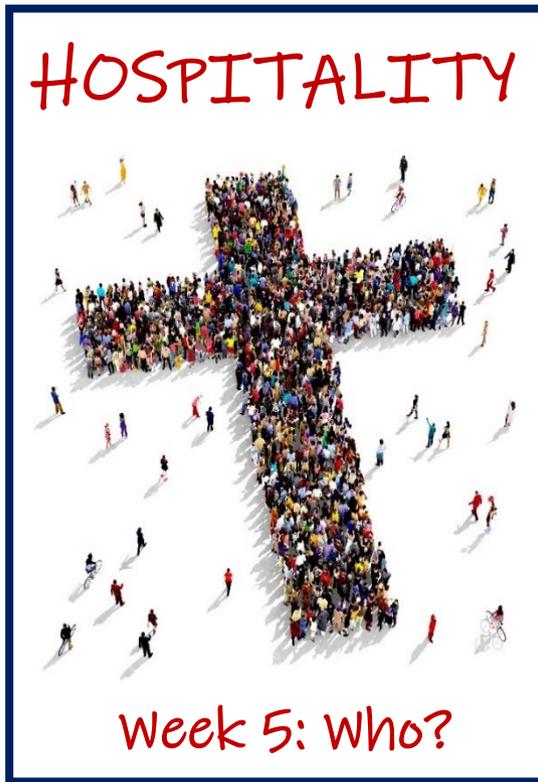


"We cannot measure how you heal or answer every sufferer's prayer" John Bell and Graham Maul.

"O Christ the healer we have come to pray for health, to plead for friends" Fred Pratt Green. [DC]

Experience of the touch of Jesus ' being taken outside the walls of the church:

My former church was invited to hold a monthly Sunday afternoon service in the neighbouring nursing home. [CK]



Many years ago now I lived in a little flat, part of a block of six in Aberdeen. One day I remember my neighbour Jill from 'down below ' came up to me. She was very worried and anxious about her son D who was very feverish and lying on the settee. Jill wanted me to go down and see D. I don't know why Jill asked me. I was young, single and had no experience of children! What could I do? I can't remember if Jill asked me to pray or I just offered to pray. It is quite a distant memory. I sat down on the couch and prayed for D, very simply, asking Jesus to heal him. Within a short time, D was so much better. Jill and I were so relieved and grateful for what I believe was the 'touch of Jesus'. [SS]

I think your Captain Sir Thomas Moore is a wonderful example. Jesus met him in his garden at 99 years old. As a result, Captain Tom did what he could to help without ever leaving his garden. No hoopla, nothing grandiose, he just tried to raise something like £1,000 to help the NHS Charities Together and ended up raising over £30 Million.

Jesus touched the heart of an old man who then touched so many well beyond his garden and the borders of his country. I wonder what Captain Tom would have said much earlier in his life if someone had said to him: "God has a special purpose for you, Tom. You're going to raise £30 million pounds for the NHS Charities Together and you won't do it until you're 100 years old." Whether he knew it or not, Captain Tom accepted God's invitation when it came.

We never really know who might need the touch of Jesus in their lives or whom God might choose to send to touch them, or how that might happen. We need to accept the invitation when it come however small and insignificant it might seem to us. It may be life changing for someone else. [PW]

1. At even when the sun was set,  
The sick, O Lord, around Thee lay;  
O in what divers pains they met!  
O with what joy they went away!

2. Once more 'tis eventide, and we  
Oppressed with various ills draw near;  
What if Thy form we cannot see?  
We know and feel that Thou art here.

3. O Saviour Christ, our woes dispel;  
For some are sick, and some are sad,  
And some have never loved Thee well  
And some have lost the love they had;

6. Thy touch has still its ancient power;  
No word from Thee can fruitless fall;  
Hear in this solemn evening hour,  
And in Thy mercy heal us all. [JP]

My father-in-law and others from his local church took the 'touch of Jesus' into their local community centre where (in pre-Covid times) a market was held every Wednesday. This was advertised in the local press as follows:  
'Would you appreciate someone praying with you? We are Christians who believe that God heals today. If you would like prayer for yourself or someone you know or a listening ear please come to Room 1 in the Church Centre from 10am to 12 noon every Wednesday. These prayer times are totally private and confidential. [JP]