

Dementia Prayer Week 12-19 March: Friday 13th Anointed by the Holy Spirit Prayer
by Archbishop Bernard Longley, Birmingham

Pray for the Mission of the Pastoral Care Project
inspired by the Gospel of Luke 4.18-19:

The charity remembers the many individuals, past
and present, we invite you to join in this Prayer
by Archbishop Bernard Longley:

Simplicity by Deacon Kevin O'Connor:

After reading 'Anointed by the Holy Spirit' prayer
of mission, composed by Archbishop Bernard
Longley, it brought to mind an image which is
often in my mind. It is of Saint John Henry
Newman and Blessed Dominic Barberi at
Littlemore in Oxford

This is the place where Newman was received
into the Church as a Catholic. I visualise a cold,
wet and windy night in October 1845, when
Blessed Dominic arrived, the door was almost
blown open to let him into the cowshed which
had been converted into a chapel. This is where
John Henry Newman made his profession of faith, was received into the Church and made his First
Holy Communion. The occasion was remarkable for its simplicity.

Responses to this story:

This story captured the attention of one sixth form student who hadn't realised that Blessed Dominic
was assaulted verbally and stoned daily ...the student was keen to know more about these two great
men - saints in waiting, and in his own words "how they resonated so strongly with the resilience
and strength needed for us all today".

In what way does this capture your attention?

Class or group or family discussion. Follow information Blessed Dominic
<https://catholicherald.co.uk/news/2013/08/27/archbishop-hopes-dominic-barberi-will-bemade-a-saint/>

One way of using the Dementia family Ministry prayer card could be setting time set aside and
consecrates your memory to the Holy Spirit. As you rest a while the Holy Spirit may remind you of
experiences where you may have had a similar encounter of meeting the Lord.

The Pastoral Care Project trustees have also reflected on the text, as I have myself. What I recognise
is the simplicity of the person with dementia - their receptiveness to the Holy Spirit; our human eye
cannot see the spiritual bond between the Soul and God.

Most of all please us this new prayer to guide the mission of the Pastoral Care Project, and all those
who work closely with us, as each one of us is called to witness the love and compassion of Christ.
May all the prayers speed the canonisation of Blessed Dominic Barberi. Contact us via the website.
www.pastoralcareproject.org.uk/annual-reports-2018-19 Please use Dementia family Prayer Card,



ANOINTED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT

O God, our heavenly Father,
your beloved Son has revealed himself to
us as the one anointed by the Holy Spirit,
to preach Good News to the poor.

Grant us the vision to recognise and reach
out to those who are in need around us,
and the courage to preach your Good News
by our way of living.

Make us your Son's true disciples so
that we may walk in his footsteps and in
company with Our Lady, St John Henry
Newman, Blessed Dominic Barberi and
all your saints.

Through Christ Our Lord. Amen.

*Most Rev Bernard Longley,
Archbishop of Birmingham.*