

23rd Sunday of Ordinary Time

Year A

Today's second reading holds a most beautiful sentiment. It reminds us that Jesus is the long awaited Messiah who has built on the commandments given to Moses and summed them up in simple terms as to how we should act:

Love God and love your neighbour.



St Paul, in this reading to the Romans, says:

“Love is the one thing that cannot hurt your neighbour;”

He continues,

“that is why it is the answer to every one of the commandments.”

“
I’ve learned that
people will forget
WHAT YOU SAID,
people will forget
WHAT YOU DID,
but people will
never forget how you
MADE THEM FEEL.

”

MAYA ANGELOU

So, in this reading, St Paul is inviting us, as Christians, to follow Jesus in the path of love.

If we commit ourselves to love, we will not hurt another person.

If we commit ourselves to love, we will not fight with others.

If we commit ourselves to love, we will have no room for racism.

If we commit ourselves to love, we will not be unkind.



If we commit ourselves to love, we will accept people for who they are.

If we commit ourselves to love, we will respect each other.

If we commit ourselves to love, we will work for the common good.

If we commit ourselves to love, we will respect our planet.



An invitation is not a demand. It requires a response on our part but leaves us free to accept or reject it. I believe that our community in Dockhead usually chooses to commit to love, shown by service and kindness. Let us ask our God to continue to support us as we walk in love's way, because, as the song says, "*Love changes everything.*"