

St Maximilian Kolbe | Wednesday 14 August

Today is Wednesday the 14 August, the memorial of St Maximilian Kolbe, in the Nineteenth Week of Ordinary Time.

Salt of the Sound sing, ?I need Thee every hour?.

Today?s reading is from the Gospel of Matthew.

Jesus talks about reconciliation. It sounds easy, but we know it isn?t. He tells us an astonishing thing. We have the power to bind and loose the sins of others. We have only to come together in his name, and he is there among us. Maximilian Kolbe died as a witness to love and human solidarity in a Nazi death camp. Like him, we can be agents of reconciliation or agents of conflict. The choice is ours. Do you act as an agent of reconciliation in the world?

Saying sorry or inviting someone who has injured us to be reconciled is a tall order. Can you make the effort to find the words, to lay yourself and your injuries or resentments bare before another? How do you react to challenges to your behaviour? Can you be an instrument of peace?

As you hear the reading repeated, what bit of it touches your heart? Allow those words to sink in. Jesus offers us power to reveal his presence to one another through being reconciled. Where does that power need to become real for you?

As you talk to God, what do you find yourself wanting to say about the need for forgiveness and reconciliation? Is there someone special you need to pray for, or a situation in your life that needs God?s healing power?