

Good Friday Reflection

Christians call today Good Friday; it is when we remember a series of events that seem the very opposite of good. Jesus nailed and twisted on a cross, dying. The murder of an innocent man. The triumph of political and religious power over a humble man of God. Where is the good in this Friday?

All around us we see a world that is wanting and twisted out of shape. Rising temperatures, floating plastic. Many species on the brink of extinction and pollutions of different kinds. God's world scared by the greed and selfishness of humans.

But as Mary looked at the new-born baby Jesus, could she have imagined what lay ahead for him? Could she have seen the change in the attitudes of the crowd, from the triumphal entry into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday, to the cries of Crucify only days later.

Could we, while celebrating Christmas, just a few short months ago, have imagined that the world we live in could have changed so much in the weeks that followed. As we come to the cross of Good Friday, we live in a changed world.

As the disciples saw Jesus so cruelly taken from them and despaired, so we too are in danger of despairing at the way the pandemic has changed our lives.

The disciples had each other and we as a church family have each other. We have seen on the news in the past days a mixture of joy and sadness, hope and fear, good intentions and disguised self-centeredness. Look to the good that we see. As a church family, we must keep in touch and support one another.

While we have a global war raging around us against the Coronavirus, we must remember the price Jesus paid to save us all those years ago. I am reminded of the verses in John's Gospel where Mary looks for the body Jesus and asks the gardener if he knows where it is. When she hears his voice, she knows it is Jesus.

This Good Friday while we reflect on the pain and suffering of Jesus, and of the world we live in. As we think about our restricted lives, as we try to keep safe, we can pray for the world. Pray that through all the difficulties this pandemic is causing, we and the whole world will hear Jesus speak and recognise Him for who He really is. The God who loves us more than we could ever imagine.

Stay safe and may God's love and the light of Christ, take away the darkness in our lives until we meet again. Amen