

Reflection for Monday 5th Week of Easter 2020

Not to us, Lord, but to your name give the glory. This is easier said than done. We all like to be affirmed for our achievements, especially when we put a great deal of ourselves into them. Yet, we also like to acknowledge the help we have received in accomplishing them. There is much to be learnt from acknowledging that all achievement is ultimately attributable to God. The God who gave us life; the God who blessed us with faith; the God who blessed us with our gifts and talents; the God who blessed us with Jesus who has shown us how to use them. Throughout his life, and particularly in his active ministry, Jesus shunned earthly honour, beginning with his temptations in the wilderness. Whenever the people wanted to make him King or acknowledge his greatness, he would move on to another village. Even on, what we call, Palm Sunday, he avoided being made the King the people wanted, however good an earthly king he would have been. When we love someone and are able to do something good for them that they appreciate, we do not do it for the glory, we do it for the happiness and joy that it brings to the one we love. Deep down we know that this is precisely what God wants for everyone, happiness and joy; what Jesus *called the fullness of life*. John makes it very clear that Jesus healed, helped and sustained people for their joy and happiness knowing that that was precisely what the Father wanted for them. It is a happiness and joy that comes from knowing that harmony and balance has been restored. Jesus was able to see how each good, kind act of service, of self-sacrifice, fitted into the whole of God's plan - just like putting a jigsaw piece into the jigsaw and gradually gaining a better impression of what the whole picture will be. Giving God the glory for all our actions and achievements will help us see how our contribution fits into the bigger picture - and that will be all the acknowledgement we will need!

AND

- A photon checks into a hotel and the porter asks him if he has any luggage. The photon replies, "No, I'm traveling light."
- If a child refuses to sleep during nap time, are they guilty of resisting a rest?

Three chaps were asked what they would like people to say about them when they were looking at them as they lay in their coffins after they had died. The first chap said he would like people to say he was a good bloke and a great friend; the second chap said he would like people to say he always did the right thing and he was a good bloke; after a bit of thought the third chap said he would like people to say **he's moving!!**