

Reflection for Wednesday 4th Week of Easter 2020

The question that keeps popping up at the moment is: What will happen after the lockdown and the end of social distancing? Some talk about a new *normal*. That things will never be the same again. In fact, things are never the same again even in ordinary times and the so called *normal* is constantly changing, often without any real awareness. In some respects, we are in a similar situation to that which was present just after the war. In those times, too, people helped each other, kept an eye on the needy, the elderly, and on each other, shared food and hospitality. All shared a common hardship and a desire to rebuild a healthy society inspired by the desire for the good of all – the common good. There was a general feeling of the community working together and a certain harmony and goodness pervaded everything. That spirit of caring and looking out for each other is certainly alive and well today. So, maybe, the new *normal* is a return to that shared feeling of fellowship and goodwill that existed after the war. In the early Church, the Christians clearly understood the call to reach out to others, to support them with goodness and love, as the call of God. Although people do not speak of the call of God in this way today, it does not mean that it is not happening. Jesus clearly recognised that the Father was working in him and through him and this recognition helped him work more effectively. If we do the same, see the Father working in us and through our good works towards others, our work, too, will be more effective and the new *normal* will be precisely that, the recognition of God's active presence in all the good that we do and in all the good that is being done in society today. And in this new *normal* we will experience Jesus truly risen and truly alive and want to sing ALLELUIA! ALLELUIA! GIVE THANKS TO THE RISEN LORD. ALLELUIA!

Listen to the wisdom of St John Henry Newman:

- To live is to change, and to be perfect is to have changed often.
- If we insist on being as sure as is conceivable... we must be content to creep along the ground, and never soar.
- With Christians, a poetical view of things is a duty. We are bid to colour all things with hues of faith, to see a divine meaning in every event.
- God has created all things for good; all things for their greatest good; everything for its own good. What is the good of one is not the good of another; what makes one man happy would make another unhappy. God has determined, unless I interfere with His plan, that I should reach that which will be my greatest happiness. He looks on me individually, He calls me by my name, He knows what I can do, what I can best be, what is my greatest happiness, and He means to give it to me.

More groaners:

- Why do humming birds hum? Because they don't know the words
- Why is "dark" spelled with a "k" and not a "c"? Because you can't "c" in the dark
- Two antennas who met on a roof, fell in love, and got married.
The ceremony wasn't much but the reception was excellent!
- What did the baby corn say to the mama corn? "Where's popcorn?"