

Reflection Friday week 9 – St Boniface

In his letter to Timothy, Paul could have been speaking to us about the Year of the Word that we are currently celebrating. He explains the reason why scripture, the word of God, the God who speaks, is so important. He writes: *“you have known the holy scriptures – from these you can learn the wisdom that leads to salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. All scripture is inspired by God and can profitably be used for teaching, for refuting error, for guiding people’s lives and teaching them to be holy. This is how the one who is dedicated to God becomes fully equipped and ready for any good work.”* The psalmist reinforces Paul’s advice when he writes *“Your word, Lord, is founded on Truth.”* And adds later *“Your words gladden the heart, O Lord, they give light to the eyes.”* And Jesus was never slow in using scripture to help people understand. It was scripture that inspired and motivated St Boniface’s missionary spirit and his desire to bring the good news of Christ to the open ears of the German people. He did much to organise and promote the unity of the Church which was a difficult mission in the 7th century. There are ears around us today that need to hear the good news of Jesus Christ through a message that they understand. Scripture will be there to inspire and motivate us to see that we must be living our faith, as good news first, by sharing what our faith means to us and how it has been a strength and support during this period of lockdown. We don’t have to convert people we only have to open them to the Spirit, and the Holy Spirit will do the rest. *Holy Spirit of fire, flame everlasting, so bright and clear, speak this day in our hearts. Lighten our darkness and purge us of fear, Holy Spirit of fire.*

Let’s give St Boniface the last word: *In her voyage across the ocean of this world, the Church is like a great ship being pounded by the waves of life’s different stresses. Our duty is not to abandon ship but to keep her on her course. Let us stand fast in what is right and prepare our souls for trial. Let us wait upon God’s strengthening aid and say to him “O Lord, You have been our refuge from one generation to the next.”*

Something to mull over

What do Alexander the Great and Winnie the Pooh have in common? **The same middle name!!!**

A chap goes to a pet shop to buy a goldfish. The owner asks him, "Do you want an aquarium?" The chap replies, "I don't care what star sign it is!"

What do you call bears with no ears?

B–

What do you call a bee that can't make up its mind?

A maybe.