

## Reflection Wednesday week 10. 2020

Elijah is quite an awesome figure and I certainly would not want to get into a fight with him. Jesus, on the other hand, although a forceful and strong character, showed a compassion, kindness and gentleness that made him more approachable and welcoming. He makes it clear that the importance of the law is its spirit. Given that the original version of the commandments was TEN words (a Decalogue), it suggests that it was a list of positive requirements that would best unite and strengthen a community. The intention of the Law was to help people live in peace and harmony together, united around the one God, the source of all life and love. The spirit of the community formed by it would accept and acknowledge that people could go wrong and offend each other but had the ability and desire to foster forgiveness and healing. It would be a community that lived the spirit of the law, a community in which all are valued, all are unique, and where each one is of special importance. A community that would always know and speak of itself as family. A family known for its kindness and compassion, its mercy and forgiveness, its joy and its love. A family that others would want to join because it emanated a life of wonder and energy and beauty. A family in which Jesus is our brother; where the Father watches over, cares for and protects us; and the Holy Spirit flows through everything that we do and are. A family whose very existence sings the praises and glory of God - a family full of HOPE.

*“Hope is a path taken with others. An African proverb says: “If you want to go fast, go alone; if you want to go far, go with others”. Isolation and aloofness never generate hope; but closeness to others and encounter do. Left to ourselves, we will go nowhere. Nor will we be able to build a future for anyone, even ourselves, by exclusion. A path of hope calls for a culture of encounter and dialogue which can overcome conflict and sterile confrontation.”* Pope Francis

### Some further thoughts . . .

- You don't need a parachute to go skydiving. You need a parachute to go skydiving TWICE . . . .
- Women only call me ugly until they learn how much money I make. Then they call me ugly and poor!!
- Why do cows wear bells? Because their horns don't work!!
- I, for one, like Roman numerals!!!!