

Reflection for Tuesday Week 9 2020

Today Jesus cleverly escapes a trap set for him. We recognise his astuteness, his wisdom and ingenuity. Jesus not only neutralises the challenge with which he is presented but he does not attempt to attack or belittle his antagonists even though he may have upset them. The real ability of Jesus was that he recognised the trap and the intentions of his antagonists and was able to neutralise the situation. How often do tricky situations present themselves but we have no idea how to neutralise them in a way that takes the sting out of them in order to move forward with no harm done? The wisdom in the letter of St Peter is to ask us to *“go on growing in the grace and in the knowledge of our Lord and saviour Jesus Christ.”* (2 Pt 3:17) The grace and knowledge of Jesus will help us when we encounter difficult or seemingly impossible situations. Sports men and women, crafts men and women, in fact all those in any and every kind of discipline develop through practice an intuitive response to what others might see as difficult challenges. Developing our relationship of faith in Jesus will do the same for us. With the Holy Spirit’s presence in our lives just renewed, we are more able to recognise the presence of Jesus around us as well as his absence. This same Spirit will help us face our difficulties and challenges with courage and trust so that we may give glory to God.

A further encouraging thought . . .

A man, looking for a good church to attend, happened to enter one in which he heard the people and the priest praying: “I have sinned through my own fault, in my thoughts and in my words, in what I have done, and in what I have failed to do.” The man dropped into a seat and sighed, “Thank goodness, I’ve found my crowd at last”

Yet another little story . . .

Scientists have discovered another deadly pathogen. They are calling it the **Peekaboo virus**.

Doctors are sending anyone with peekaboo straight to the Intensive Care Unit . . . **I-C-U**.