

Reflection Tuesday Week 15 – 2020

In the very early days, after Christ's Ascension into heaven and the coming of the Spirit, the followers of Jesus were known as the people of the **Way**. It was the way they lived their lives that impressed. Their care for each other, the help they gave to the needy, the cheerfulness and joy they exhibited, their commitment, loyalty and trust. The repentance Jesus called for concerns the way in which we live our lives. Therefore, honesty, dignity, reverence and selflessness would be our outstanding features, along with a deep gratitude for all with which God has blessed us. Although it is possible that Jesus is angry in today's Gospel, it is more probable that Jesus was really full of sorrow because the people refused to repent, as Jesus recognised the harm they were doing to themselves. The punishment mentioned by Jesus is precisely what Jesus came to help them and us avoid. The Gospel is a heartfelt plea to the people to change the way that they lived, to become people of the WAY. One of the blessings of the Lockdown has been that we have rediscovered the **way** of caring for others, reaching out to those in need, being a friend and a carer. It has fostered generosity, gentleness and kindness as well as a newfound appreciation of the world in which we live. Hopefully we have learned to live more simply and have found ourselves renewed by the experience. Let us live the *Way* of Jesus and help remove the sorrow experienced by Jesus.

Tinker ,tailor, soldier

As a group of soldiers stood in formation at an Army Camp, the Drill Sergeant said, *"All right! All you idiots fall out."* As the rest of the squad wandered away, one soldier remained at attention. The Drill Instructor walked over until he was eye to eye with him, and then raised a single eyebrow. The soldier smiled and said, *"Sure was a lot of them, huh, sir?"*