

Reflection Saturday Week 30 – 2020

Some parables of Jesus are puzzling. If you humble yourself in order to be exalted isn't that using reverse psychology in order to gain a better seat at the table! Even Paul is puzzling today. Maybe he just wanted to say he was always willing to put other people first. Both Jesus and Paul spent themselves totally for the good of others, not just because it was the right thing to do but out of a genuine love for them. Humility is about recognising where we stand in relationship to God, to others and to creation. It is not about belittling ourselves, or considering yourself worse than someone else. It is about valuing others because we know we are valued by God. Humility means recognising we are not God, not Divine, and that our value is bestowed on us by God's love. God made us from the dust of the earth and breathed love, goodness and the great qualities of life into us. Humility helps us recognise this. Humility sees the true value of God, of others, including our enemies, and the beauty and wonder of creation. Humility enables us to take ourselves out of the equation to see things as they really are. Humility stops us from comparing ourselves with others and helps us better appreciate God, others and creation, and see the miraculous nature of everything. Once we do this, we will want to join Mary and proclaim: *My soul glorifies the Lord and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour!*

Pope Francis says: *To protect creation, to protect every man and every woman, to look upon them with tenderness and love is to open up a horizon of hope.*

A groaner . . .

MARCUS to BOB: Happy birthday, Bob. I have a poem for you.

BOB: Great! Let me hear it!

MARCUS: Don't worry about the past — you can't change it.

Don't worry about the future — you can't predict it.

And don't worry about the present — **I didn't get you one!!**