

Reflection Thursday Week 34 – 2020

Given the readings from Apocalypse this week we can easily draw the conclusion that the worldwide pandemic is a punishment for the way in which we have treated our planet. Although this is not true, the severity of the pandemic would have been reduced if we cared for our planet better and gave better support to the poor and destitute. The pandemic has spread among the overcrowded, less healthy regions of our world much more numerously. The billions and billions of pounds spent on fighting the pandemic along with the even greater financial loss because of the interruption to business could have been used beforehand to provide better housing conditions at home and abroad. It could have been used to help feed people better and keep them healthier. If this had been done, we would be living in happier, more harmonious and caring societies. Happier and more contented communities would not need mind-altering drugs. There would be greater trust between communities and far less need for instruments of war or defence armaments.

There are countries in the world that have no armies. Admittedly they are small. Costa Rica, for instance, has invested in renewable energy and by the end of the year hopes that 100% of its energy will be provided by renewable sources.

Rather than see the pandemic as a punishment, see it as a warning. We have learnt much to date: the importance of family, the importance of our planet, discovering the wealth of goodness, love and care that lies within us, the ability to live more simply and benefit from it. We are not only being called to create a better world for ourselves but for the whole of the planet. It is no good saying that other nations are doing little to help others. Change always begins with ourselves. It is the small countries like Costa Rica that are showing the way.

Opportunity lies open before us.

If we refuse to respond, it won't need God to bring about the end of the world, we will do it ourselves!!!!

The GOOD NEWS is Advent approaches, a season of HOPE. God believes we can change things for the better and sends Jesus to help us!!

Mark Twain said: When the end of the world comes, I want to be in Kentucky. *They are always 20 years behind everything and everyone else.*

A man on a tractor has just driven past me yelling "the end of the world is nigh!" I think it was Farmer Geddon.