

Reflection Saturday week 3 – 2021

Hebrews spells out the importance of Faith in the development of a people. Abraham emigrated and became the father of a great nation. His faith inspired and shaped all who followed after him. Think about our faith community here in Hitchin. We acknowledge the immigrant communities who helped establish and nurture the faith here, in particular the Italian and Irish families who came here under very difficult circumstances. Their faith, however, provided them with strength and motivated them to become welcoming, generous, helpful and supportive towards others, especially those poorer than themselves. They did not want others to face the hardships and sufferings that they had experienced, knowing that Jesus always reached out to people who were suffering hardship, injustice, sickness, rejection, poverty and distress. The lesson behind Jesus' power over nature in today's story is, not just about his power, Jesus shows us that God wanted to bring harmony and peace into our lives. This is why the love, goodness, generosity, caring and charity offered by people of faith is always so special. Through them, we become aware of how God is present, continually reaching out and helping us. In recognising this, we will be inspired to do the same out of thanksgiving and praise of God. Marcia A. Newton – In the eyes of Christ.

In times of doubt and fear, when the world brings us to tears,
we look into your eyes and we see the one who cares.
Your eyes see us as people blessed with joy and grace.
We are **beauty** in the Eyes of Christ.

In times when we're alone, when the world sees us unloved,
we look into your eyes and see the greatest love of all.
Your love endures forever. You are always by our side.
We are **loving** in the Eyes of Christ.

In times when we are meek, when the world sees us as weak,
we look into your eyes and we see the strength we need.
Your eyes are always on us. There is nothing we can hide.
We are **special** in the Eyes of Christ.

In times when we are sad, when the world sees us as bad,
we look into your eyes and see a saving, gentle Lamb
who gave his life for us in loving sacrifice.
We are **holy** in the Eyes of Christ.

In times when we're not strong, when the world sees us as flawed,
we look into your eyes and see the maker of us all.
You see us as we truly are, not as the world would see.
For we are **perfect** in the Eyes of Christ.

A man who lived by the sea grew a cucumber so large he was able to turn it into his house.
One day a bad storm flooded the area with seawater and damaged his home.

Now he's in a pickle!!