

## Reflection Saturday Lent 1 – 2021

Some of our translations in the bible readings miss the mark. The Greek word translated as **perfection** is *teleios* and, although *teleios* can mean 'perfect', it is more usually used to refer to *maturity* or *wholeness*. We can therefore understand Jesus telling us *to be the best that you can be* just as the Father is the best that he can be. We cannot do better than that. In our case it gives us room to improve, to become more mature and discover greater wholeness.

A speech given by Rose, who came to college at 87 to finish her degree, to her much younger fellow students:

*"We do not stop playing because we are old; we grow old because we stop playing. There are only four secrets to staying young, being happy, and achieving success. You have to laugh and find humour every day.*

*You should always have a dream because when you lose your dreams, you die. So many people walking around are dead and don't even know it! There is a huge difference between growing older and growing up.*

*A nineteen-year-old who lies in bed for a full year and does nothing productive, not one thing, will still turn twenty years old. I am eighty-seven years old and if I stay in bed for a year and never do anything, I will still turn eighty-eight.*

*Anybody can grow older. That doesn't need any talent or ability. The idea is to grow up by always finding opportunities to change.*

*Have no regrets. The elderly usually have few or no regrets for what they have done but rather for things they did not do. The only people who fear death are those with regrets.*

SO, REMEMBER, GROWING OLDER IS MANDATORY. GROWING UP IS OPTIONAL.

We make a Living by what we earn and work for. We make a Life by what we give.

Our readings today put it even more simply: *They are happy who do God's will, seeking God with all their hearts. **And** Blessed are those who, with a noble and generous heart, take the word of God to themselves and yield a harvest through their perseverance.*