

Reflection Friday Lent 3 – 2021

Hosea echoes the call of God: Come back to me! Come back to the Lord! Come back to the Lord with all your hearts! It is a call of Love and yearning. It is the call of a God who wants us by his side so that God can watch over us and care for us and teach us how to love as God loves. The Gospel event today is so heartening. The scribes and pharisees often bear the brunt of Jesus anger and disappointment at their rejection of his love, of the truth, of God. Today we discover that not all of the scribes and pharisees were blind to who Jesus was. We know that some were or became his followers. This underlines the important fact that Jesus was never against people, nor against people who did not necessarily agree with him, he was against the lies, deceit and hypocrisy that they peddled to the people and was willing to expose their evils. Jesus also recognised that they did also teach truths about God and about faith and acknowledged this when he told the people to do what they say but do not follow the example of their lives. One of the most uplifting truths about loving God and loving neighbour is that not only do we become part of those we love but through their love for us they become part of us. Because we have woken up to the importance of creation, loving neighbour necessarily means loving creation. The care and love we give to creation, creation will show to us in return - only more so.

As the hand is made for holding and the eye for seeing,
You, oh God, have fashioned me for joy.
Share with me the vision that shall find joy everywhere.
In the wild violet's beauty;
In the lark's melody;
In the face of a steadfast person;
In a child's smile;
In a mother's love;
In the purity of Jesus.