

Reflection Monday Lent 4 – 2021

The theme of rejoicing continues. God offers us Joy and Gladness. We are even offered 100 years of life because we have been rescued by the Lord; comforting words.

St John wrote his Gospel around the following 7 signs:

1. Water turned to Wine ([John 2:1-11](#))
2. Healing of the (Nobleman's) son near death ([John 4:46-54](#)) (today's gospel reading)
3. Healing of the lame man at the pool ([John 5:1-17](#))
4. Feeding of the 5,000 ([John 6:1-15](#))
5. Walking on the water ([John 6:16-21](#))
6. Healing of the man born blind ([John 9:1-41](#))
7. Raising of Lazarus from the dead ([John 11:1-47](#))

Later in the gospel (20:30-31) John gives the reason why: *“Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; but these (the seven signs) are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.”*

In the healing of the court official's son today, it is clear that he believed and trusted in the word of Jesus and set off home with hope. It was only after some time that he received the news that his son was healed. We make our Lenten journey also in faith, hope and trust. We, too, ask for a renewed and more faithful life that we might better exemplify the Good News of Jesus Christ and be ministers of new life for others. We look forward to Easter in hope, not just to remember a resurrection 2000 years ago but a resurrection for 2021, where all the evils of world are conquered by our loving saviour Jesus Christ. Having life renewed because we believe in the name of Jesus Christ, we wish to proclaim the faith, hope and love that this life in Christ signifies. And so, we pray:

God to enfold me,
God to surround me,
God in my speaking,
God in my thinking.

God in my sleeping,
God in my waking,
God in my watching,
God in my hoping.

God in my life,
God in my lips,
God in my soul,
God in my heart.

God in my sufficing,
God in my slumber,
God in mine ever-living soul,
God in mine eternity.

(Ancient Celtic oral traditions - carmina gadelica)