

### Reflection Thursday Easter Week 3 Earth Day 2021

Greater than the 7 deadly sins is a person's need to be in control. Some believe a person not in control isn't fully human; yet, Christians are called to hand over complete control of their lives to God! Jesus reminds us that we do not choose God, no, God chooses us. Those who want full control of their lives believe seeking help from others is a sign of weakness. Fortunately, the Eunuch in today's reading was not so full of himself and asked for Philip's help and, in that help, he found true freedom and joy in Jesus Christ. Jesus recognised his continual need for the Father's guidance, help and support. It enabled Jesus to be free to become the bread of life and joyfully give himself to us.

In celebrating Earth Day, we are reminded that it was those in control, who devastated the earth and its people for their own selfish gain. Despite the immense harm we have done, today the Earth sings her love for us, hoping we will open our hearts, lives and wills to her. The Earth is, and always has been, one of the best disciples of the Good News, sacrificing herself daily to bring us life, joy and happiness in food, drink and livelihood. And, despite our cruelty and abuse, she forgives us time and time and time again. The Earth has never sought to conquer and control us even though she has challenged us in many ways. No, the Earth wants to share her life with us that we might share our life with her. She teaches us about beauty, harmony, poetry, art, the interrelatedness of all things, the value and importance of dependency on each other. Most of all she teaches us about the futility of wanting to be in control. Some accuse the earth of producing plagues like the current one, when, in fact, all plagues are man-made particularly because of our neglect of the poor, forcing them to live in squalor and inhumane conditions. The Earth calls us to show her honour, dignity and respect and allow her to teach us the in-depth truths of the purity, goodness, magnificence and wonder of God.

Let us give thanks and praise to God for the Earth!!

How do trees get on the internet?

They log in.

What did the ground say to the earthquake?

You crack me up!

'I have an obsession with wind farms.'

'Really?'

'Yes. I'm a huge fan.'