

Reflection Wednesday week 11 - 2021

St Paul is obviously in a good mood today. “*God loves a cheerful giver!*” he writes. Repeating something that Jesus said in the Gospel. Paul also encourages us to do good implying that the more good we do the more good we are able to do. *Feed up Warm up* began in the parish three years ago, opening one night a week to provide a warm meal for the homeless in the winter months. It was so successful it continued to offer this service every Wednesday. Then came the pandemic and *Feed up Warm up* started to organise food hampers for the homeless and the poor families in and around the parish. A second centre was opened in Stevenage. Between July last year and March this year they provided over 1000 food parcels, Businesses in Letchworth, Baldock, Hitchin and Stevenage are raising funds to support its work. It has been strongly supported, from the very beginning, by Caritas Westminster. Goodness breeds goodness. The work is done not for glory, not for show and not for the reward. It is done out of genuine concern and deep desire to help and support those in need.

Even if the **Prayer of Richard of Chichester** is not recited by all those who work with *Feed Up Warm Up*, it is echoed loudly in their work for others:

*Thanks be to you, Lord Jesus Christ,
for all the benefits you have given me,
for all the pains and insults you have borne for me.
O most merciful redeemer, friend and brother,
may I know you more clearly,
love you more dearly,
and follow you more nearly, day by day. Amen.*