

Reflection Thursday Week 29 – 2021

Although we may not always like it, we prefer people who tell it like it is, upfront, straight forward, like Paul and Jesus in the readings. History shows the truth of Jesus' words because his message did divide families radically. However, be clear that this caused Jesus great suffering. He was offering people eternal life, a wholesome way to live, and a form of living with love and care that would lead to happiness. Their rejection of his offer caused him extreme sadness.

Let me now be straight with you. God entrusted us with the care of creation yet now it faces imminent destruction unless we radically change our lives.

Pope Francis says:

In the name of God, I ask the great extracting industries – mining, oil, forestry, real estate, agribusiness – to stop destroying forests, wetlands and mountains, to stop polluting rivers and seas, to stop poisoning food and people.

Let us dream together, because it was precisely the dreams of freedom and equality, of justice and dignity, and dreams of fraternity that improved the world. I am convinced, by looking through these dreams we will find God's own dream for all of us who are God's sons and daughters.

Know that you are called to participate in a great process of change. The future of humanity is in your hands. You are capable of organising and carrying out creative alternatives, like the Good Samaritan, to tend attentively to all those who are stricken along the way, and at the same time, to ensure that many more join in: the poor and the oppressed of the Earth deserve it and our common home demands it of us.

Ask God to pour His blessings onto our dreams. Do not lose hope. Let us remember the promise that Jesus made to His disciples: 'I will be with you always,' and remembering it, know that I will also be with you. The important thing is to realise that God is with you.

An 85-year-old granddad was rushed into the hospital with no memory and brain damage.

The doctor asked him: "Do you know where you are?"

"I'm in Lister Hospital."

"What town are you in?" "Stevenage."

"Do you know who I am?" "Dr Hamilton."

Granddad then turned to the nurse and said, "I hope he doesn't ask me any more questions."

"Why?" she asked. "Because all of those answers were on his badge."