

Reflection Monday 4th Week Lent 2022

Too often we tar people with the same brush because they belong to the same group. Many, many Russians do not want to be at war with Ukraine and some have stood up in opposition. The Court Official could easily be seen as one of the bad guys wanting Jesus dead, but he is presented to us as an exemplary model of someone with true faith even though not initially a believer. Trusting only in Jesus' word, he believes Jesus when told his son is healed and he travels home sustained by this belief. His faith is rewarded.

Lent is a special faith journey for us because we make it in the belief that at the end of the journey our life will be renewed with what Isaiah calls *Gladness and Joy*. Jesus travels with us as he travels with everyone who makes this journey. If we would but take the time, we will discover signs of Jesus' presence all along the way. It could be a smile or a welcome, the chirping of the birds, an encouraging comment and, dare I say it, an unexpected email!! Jesus is always close at hand.

Let's journey together my friend,

walk by my side.

Let me hold you up in faith,
so you don't stagger and fall.

Give me the blessing of giving to you
my companionship
as you journey through.

I don't want you to stay
in the valley of tears
but help you walk out
into the light of years.

You say your faith
is dim and weak,
let me lift you on mine
so that you once more can climb.

For I know He's waiting
patiently for you
to turn your face to His
so He will get you through.

Then, one day when I am weak
perhaps you'll take my hand
and we will travel together still.