## **Reflection Easter Thursday 2022**

Notice how often that, when Jesus appears after his resurrection, he links his wounds and his suffering to his resurrection. He suffered and died and then rose again. The suffering and the resurrection are intricately linked. With this knowledge and belief, we find help and support in the resurrection whenever we face suffering however difficult and however costly. For, whatever the suffering, the promise of New Life follows. Our faith in Jesus and in the power of his name promises us healing and strength and provides us with the support and courage we need to continue through the hardest of times.

Heavenly Father, send us your mercy and goodness when the trials and storms of life come our way. If we are prone to grumble and complain, may the Holy Spirit remind us to be thankful for your promise of eternity because of the cross. May we look for opportunities to comfort those around us who are suffering so that we can help and support each other. We live in a fallen world but, although we cannot escape suffering, we know that heaven is our home and that the crown of life awaits those who stand firm in the faith. We believe that you have overcome the world and that we have no reason to fear. We praise you and give thanks that you will never leave us to walk through suffering alone. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.