

## Reflection Friday Week 33 – 2022

We are currently reading from the book of the "**Apocalypse** of John." The word *apocalypse* is Greek and means *revelation* or that which is uncovered. The Greek word literally means **to pull the lid off something**. A proper reading of the book will show that its focus is not the destruction of the world per se but about **accountability**; about nations and peoples being brought to account. The destruction of the world will not be by God but by humanity who have ignored God's call to care and support not only others but the whole of creation.

Jesus calls us to prayer recognising wisely that by putting God first the economic problems we face would cease to exist. We will have to live more simply, make sacrifices, some of which will be severe. If, as we have been taught, we put others first, we will accept any hardship, knowing that we are saving lives in other parts of the world, after all, they are our brothers and sisters. Providing the planet with the ability to heal itself will end the long droughts and torrential rains both of which kill and prevent food production. With more productive land, there would be fewer people migrating and a healthier world all round. The facts show that we have the means to feed the present numbers in the world more than twice over if we worked together

Today we remember Graham Dann a celebrated and founding father in the *Language of Tourism*. In his research he travelled to many countries throughout the world not just out of academic interest but with a view of helping travellers discover the many riches of the places they visit. The followers of Jesus are travellers, not called tourists but pilgrims. Their purpose is not so much to visit places but to deepen their faith. As pilgrims we too need guides to help us discover the riches of our faith and the generosity of God's love for us made concrete in Jesus Christ. With God's love, with faith in Jesus Christ we can journey through the difficulties ahead and come through stronger and more worthy Christians unafraid to give an account of our lives or be *apocalyptic* by pulling the lid of everything.

**One day a little girl** was sitting and watching her mother washing up. She suddenly noticed that her mother had several strands of white hair in contrast with her brunette head.

She looked at her mother and inquisitively asked, '*Why are some of your hairs white, Mum?*' Her mother replied, '*Well, every time that you do something wrong and make me cry or unhappy, one of my hairs turns white.*'

The little girl thought about this revelation for a while and then said, '*Mummy, how come ALL of grandma's hairs are white?*'