

Reflection Friday Week 2 2023

Hebrews keeps referring to the covenant God made with his chosen people. The first covenant was made with Moses and the people he was leading out from slavery in Egypt. The people, called the Hebrews at that time, were descendants from the 12 tribes, all the children of Jacob who became known as Israel, hence the name of the chosen people. The covenant was an agreement based on trust and loyalty and, in simple terms, is described in the words of God: *You will be my People and I will be your God!* The story of the Old Testament described how this relationship, this covenant, was lived by the people. With the coming of Jesus and, through his death and resurrection, a new covenant was formed with the same promise from God but one in which we are freed from all the past failures of the people.

We become members of this new covenant through baptism in which we promise to be loyal and faithful to God through Jesus Christ. The law written in our minds and hearts, that Hebrews mentions, is simply what Jesus described: *To love God and to love our neighbour!* This is what we would call written into our DNA. Made in the image of God, loving God and neighbour is who we are and, the better we do this, the happier will be our lives.

The Gospel acclamations today state clearly that: *Through the Good News God called us to share the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. For God in Christ was reconciling the world to himself, and he has entrusted to us the news that they are reconciled.*