

### Reflection Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> Week Easter 2023

The danger of hearing a story too many times is not to let it open new avenues of understanding for you. Scripture offers more levels of understanding than all of us could fathom in our lifetimes!

Time and time again scripture speaks of events that on the face of it seem incredulous. From being ardently engulfed tracking down, removing or imprisoning anyone who believed in Jesus Christ, St Paul became one of its most prominent proselytisers. Yet, faith is a gift from God and a gift cannot be forced on anyone, certainly not the gift of faith. Paul was challenged to accept the gift offered and he did. What made him change his mind?

Was it Ananias who, in response to God, unsealed Saul's blindness. Was the blindness not one of eyesight but rather his hatred of Christians, of Christ's followers?? Was it the fact that the people he saw as his enemies were willing to reach out and help him understand what had happened to him? Or, was it a question that had been nagging him for some time: Why am I so vehement in persecuting the Christians? Maybe he was asking himself why he was persecuting people when all he knew about Christ had come from negative sources? If Christ was as evil as he had been led to believe, why were so many people following Christ and willing to welcome death, without anger or hostility, but willingly and lovingly.

We are being offered an opportunity to reflect on our own faith: what it means to us and what we means to Jesus!!

**Snippet in a Newspaper;**

**It has been our long-term dream to convert a lighthouse but the project has been on and off for years.**