

## Reflection Thursday Week 19 – 2023

Baptism and reconciliation come to mind from our readings today. The Israelites passed through the waters to the promised land, very much like Moses leading the people across the waters to escape from the Egyptians. With Baptism comes repentance which is never easy at the best of times. Yet reconciliation is the key to a happier and more joyful world in which we would read more about peace in the newspapers rather than war, injustice and abuse of power. If we want others to promote reconciliation, however, we must begin with ourselves and set the example.

**Henri Nouwen writes:** What is our task in this world as children of God and brothers and sisters of Jesus? Our task is *reconciliation*.

Wherever we go we see divisions among people – in families, communities, cities, countries, and continents. All these divisions are tragic reflections of our separation from God. The truth that all people belong together as members of one family under God is seldom visible. Our sacred task is to reveal that truth in the reality of everyday life.

Why is that our task? Because God sent Christ to reconcile us with God and to give us the task of reconciling people with one another. As people reconcile with God through Christ, we have been given the ministry of reconciliation (see: 2 Corinthians 5:18). So, whatever we do the main question is, “Does it lead to reconciliation among people?”

**I asked God for money.** I later found out that God doesn't work that way. So I robbed a bank and then asked for forgiveness!!