

Reflection Tuesday Week 34 – 2023

In this final week before Advent the readings focus more and more on the end times. We can often be deceived by what is happening as the reading showed yesterday. Jesus speaks about some of the events that will take place and tells us the end-time is not yet. He says: *'Nation will fight against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. There will be great earthquakes and plagues and famines here and there; there will be fearful sights and great signs from heaven.'* The world is facing something of that nature now although wars have littered history for too long now. The changes in climate are producing more and more catastrophes, the likes of which have not been seen before. Rather than wallow in when the end of the world might come, however, we need to focus on helping those we are able to help here and now as the cost of living increases significantly.

A prayer for help

*Almighty God, in our distress and grief
help us to remember that you love us.*

*We deeply regret the great disasters of today:
war, hatred between nations,
the destruction of creation,
but help us place our trust and hope in you.*

Loving Lord,

*for those who have died, give them eternal rest;
for those who are bereaved, comfort and console them;
for those who are hurt, heal and strengthen them;
fill the world with peace and reconciliation.*

*Lord God, enable us to help our suffering brothers and sisters
in whatever way we can.*

Heavenly Father be with us now and always. Amen.

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