## Reflection Saturday 3rd Week Lent 2024

A reflection by a judge the other day, revealed that she believed her role as a judge was not to judge people but to judge what they do – the offence. A sinner recognises this by turning to God for mercy. The sinner realises that it is impossible to live life without the support, guidance, challenge, love and mercy of God. So, it is unfortunate to be told that the God of the Old Testament was a vengeful God who punishes the wrongdoer. Jesus taught that this image of God was completely and utterly false. He then testified to the fact by submitting himself to an unjust death by people who hated him and, in response, died for them too. So let us do what Hosea says and return to the Lord and seek his mercy. A mercy that is not just about seeking forgiveness but also asking God to repair the lost and empty spaces in our lives caused by sin knowing that this is what God always wants for us.

A Lebanese Mother wrote in heartfelt gratitude in 2023 after her husband picked up a food parcel sent by Aide Workers. On arriving home, he put the "Kishk" and "Kawarma" on the table, both traditional Lebanese foods. "She said: Are you kidding? This is from Triumphant Mercy? Our son wanted Kawarma so bad and he's been begging for it for weeks. I honestly can't afford it. My fridge is empty.

I thank God for Triumphant Mercy, God be with you and encourage you to keep on going, God bless you abundantly, give you Grace, and keep your heart. While listening to God you know exactly what people need and you intervene to help." This shows us that the Lord knows best how to give His good gifts. In giving us the gift of His son, we are able to be a conduit for His giving.