

Dear All Saints,

It was just 90 days ago that we entered in to 2020, full of joy, hope and anticipation. With all that is happening it seems like another age. But although things have changed beyond our imagination Jesus whom we worship is Lord. So let his peace remain with you and be encouraged because God is still in the throne. Look at the beauty of his creation on this wonderful day and remember Jesus' words in Matthew 6: 26-27: *"Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they? Can any one of you by worrying add a single hour to your life?"*

So even though practical things might be difficult, hold on. Try to be gracious and kind to those with whom you live. Please be extra patient and forbearing.

At times of stress it helps to recall the words of I Cor 13: 4-6

*"Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. 5 It does not dishonour others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always persevere"*

Bless those closest to you with your love and consideration. They deserve it. And it is surprising how much little gestures mean. And when you think it is all too much to bear, turn to the one who suffered more than we can ever imagine.

It is easier to be focused and maintain rhythm of prayer and devotion if you do this as early as you can at the beginning of the day. Please use the many resources available. David has put links on the site. I especially recommend spiritual communion at this time when you cannot take communion.

Remain strong - and remember that I am praying for you all daily. All is well with the church building. As I look at it from the Vicarage it seems, like me, to long for your return. God who makes all things beautiful in his time, will make this possible.

In the meantime we shall be having Wednesday fellowship on Wednesdays at 7.30pm via Skype. Tomorrow the topic will be Listening to God. On Friday we shall have our first evening reflection when we shall gather our thoughts and prayers at the end of the week. Please continue to pray for the church and nation at this time. Do check the website regularly for updates.

Let us continue to take refuge in the shadow of His wings until the disaster has passed.

Blessings

Ade