

Daily Reflection

Daily Update – Tuesday 29th September

Good Morning Everyone,

Today's Reflection is from Mike Wilson – Thanks Mike!

*'We shall stand With our feet on the Rock
Whatever men may say
We'll lift your name up high
And we shall walk
Through the darkest night
Setting our faces like flint
We'll walk into the light.*

*Lord, you have chosen me
For fruitfulness
To be transformed into your likeness
I'm gonna fight on through
'til I see you face to face.*

*Lord, as your witnesses
You've appointed us
And with your Holy Spirit
Anointed us
And so I'll fight on through
'til I see You face to face'.
(Graham Kendrick, Make Way Music, 1988)*

In Isaiah 50:7 the Suffering Servant, Jesus, says "*Because the Sovereign Lord helps me, I will not be disgraced. Therefore have I set my my face like flint, and I know I will not be put to shame.*" Similarly, today's gospel reading has Jesus about to "*resolutely set out for Jerusalem*". Literally, He was '*setting his face to Jerusalem*' (Luke 9:51). Usually, it would take 3 days to walk from Galilee to Jerusalem. Jesus took some 6 months as he continued his busy ministry in Judea before arriving at what he knew would be his final destination, the Holy City of King David. He had earlier told His disciples that He "*must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders, chief priests and teachers of the law, and He must be killed and on the third day raised to life*" (Luke 9:22). On each step of this journey Jesus knew that when He eventually reached Jerusalem it was to face an unjust and cruel death.

Jesus had to be determined, resolute and courageous to obey the Father by giving up His life and paying the price for our sins. This was to be no '*stroll in the park*' lecture tour for our Lord. It was to be an obedient march towards certain death. This was inescapable if He was to complete His rescue mission and enable sinful men and women to come back to God. We too must face up to the fact that our lives will end in certain death. Our departures will doubtless be less brutal and unjust than that of Jesus. We can trust Him never to ask us to go through anything that He has not already experienced for our sake. If we are to be raised to eternal life with God, we too need to set our faces like flint, to obey God with unflagging determination and courage. Jesus said, "*If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me. For whoever wants to save his life must lose it, but whoever loses it for me will save it* (Luke 9:23-24). Let's

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respond by using this robust Graham Kendrick song as a prayer right now. May each one of us *'fight on through until we see Jesus face to face!'* He will be alongside us each step of our way.

Remember...



News

Message from Matt

Thank you for all your kind birthday wishes over the last week. I have hit this milestone in kind and generous company. Thank you!

Due to scheduling changes, I have a space in the preaching rota for Sunday Oct 4th. I think it would be good to preach something topical that would be helpful at this time, and I have a couple of ideas, but if there's a burning question, please send it to me before Wednesday and I'll give it some thought. I know that isn't long, but if it is burning, it's already there..!

Sunday services in October

Please email me at admin@stjohnssouthbourne.com if you would like to come to any services in October.

The cut-off date for booking for each week's service is the Thursday before.

If you are unable to attend a Sunday service that you have booked, email the admin address of phone 01243 375576.

Have you got flu-like symptoms? Please don't attend Church.

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Bags of Compost

They are more bags of compost available around the back of the Centre if you would like to help yourself. Could you please bring the bag back.

Urgent Help Required

We are in need of someone to help with the video editing for the Sunday services. This involves taking the various video/text elements, combining them together, and uploading to the internet. If you or someone you know is interested in helping out or seeing what is involved, please get in touch with Jon Robinson. wardens@stjohnssouthbourne.com

St. John's on YouTube

Did you know St. John's has a YouTube channel? You can find all of the services we have produced during the lockdown period, as well as all of the tracks produced by our worship group.

It would really help us if you could press the 'Subscribe' button when you visit the YouTube Page!

Full details can be found on the St. John's website or by [clicking this link](#).

Humour

BEATITUDES

FOR A GLOBAL PANDEMIC

BLESSED ARE THOSE WHO STAY INDOORS



FOR THEY HAVE PROTECTED OTHERS

BLESSED ARE THE UNEMPLOYED AND THE SELF-EMPLOYED



FOR THEIR NEED OF GOD IS GREAT

BLESSED ARE THE CORNER SHOPKEEPERS



FOR THEY ARE THE PURVEYORS OF SCARCE THINGS

BLESSED ARE THE DELIVERY DRIVERS AND THE POSTAL WORKERS



FOR THEY ARE THE BRINGERS OF ESSENTIAL THINGS

BLESSED ARE THE HOSPITAL WORKERS; THE AMBULANCE CREWS, THE DOCTORS, THE NURSES, THE CARE ASSISTANTS, AND THE CLEANERS



FOR THEY STAND BETWEEN US AND THE GRAVE, AND THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN IS SURELY THEIRS

BLESSED ARE THE CHECKOUT WORKERS



FOR THEY HAVE PATIENCE AND FORTITUDE IN THE FACE OF OVERWORK AND FRUSTRATION

BLESSED ARE THE REFUSE COLLECTORS



FOR THEY WILL SEE GOD DESPITE THE MOUNTAINS OF WASTE

BLESSED ARE THE TEACHERS



FOR THEY REMAIN STEADFAST AND CONSTANT IN DISTURBING TIMES

BLESSED ARE THE CHURCH WORKERS; THE DEACONS, PRIESTS AND BISHOPS



FOR THEY ARE A COMFORTING PRESENCE IN A HURTING WORLD AS THEY CONTINUE TO SIGNPOST TOWARDS GOD

BLESSED ARE THE SINGLE PARENTS.



FOR THEY ARE COPING ALONE WITH THEIR RESPONSIBILITIES AND THERE IS NO RESPITE

BLESSED ARE THOSE WHO ARE ALONE.



FOR THEY ARE CHILDREN OF GOD AND WITH HIM THEY WILL NEVER BE LONELY

BLESSED ARE THE BEREAVED.



FOR WHOM THE WORST HAS ALREADY HAPPENED, THEY SHALL BE COMFORTED

BLESSED ARE THOSE WHO ARE ISOLATED WITH THEIR ABUSERS



FOR ONE DAY - WE PRAY - THEY WILL KNOW SAFETY

BLESSED ARE ALL DURING THIS TIME WHO HAVE PURE HEARTS: ALL WHO STILL HUNGER AND THIRST FOR JUSTICE; ALL WHO WORK FOR PEACE AND WHO MODEL MERCY



MAY YOU KNOW COMFORT. MAY YOU KNOW CALM. AND MAY THE GRACE OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, AND THE LOVE OF GOD, AND THE FELLOWSHIP OF THE HOLY SPIRIT, BE WITH US ALL. AMEN