

St James News: Thought for the day – Friday 3rd July 2020

Faith and doubt – by Revd Kit Gunasekera

Thomas the Apostle

Today we celebrate Thomas the Apostle.

known as doubting Thomas, perhaps unfairly.

But it's helpful to us. We all doubt God. We are in good company. Jesus doubted God at times.

Let us not be too concerned if we have doubts. It's part of the journey

Let us take them to God. To doubt is not a sin. And to doubt is not the opposite of faith, faith and doubt....work together.

Doubt is the goal keeper who saves you from defeat, faith is the striker who wins you the game, both are needed.

If more religious people could sometimes exercise more doubt and honestly question what their leaders say and what they read in their sacred texts....if only....

When Jesus told Thomas to "...stop doubting and believe" that gives us hope. The one who doubts can also believe. Elsewhere Thomas shows more faith than the rest of the disciples when he is willing to stay with Jesus and to die for him...[John 11:16](#)

The one who has faith will also doubt...thank you Thomas.

Prayer:

God of all our senses, show us how to express your gospel to all through:

experiencing the aroma of the presence of Jesus in our own lives;

tasting the joy of your love in worship as we honour you;

listening for your voice in others, challenging us to be relevant for today;

seeing opportunities to quietly and noisily express your grace to a hurting world;

touching the hearts of those around us as we share your peace.

God of all creation, teach us to experience your glory through all our senses so that we can engage creatively with our communities and share with them your love in action. Amen.

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