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St James News: Thought for the day - Monday 8th June 2020

Many Colours by Revd John Marshall

One of my favourite singers and songwriters is Dolly Parton.

I like her song “The coat of many colours”. It is about a child who goes to school in a patchwork coat which her mother has made with great love. The child counteracts the teasing by remembering her mother’s love and the story of Joseph and his coat, which her mother had told her.

This resonates with me because, as you know, I like slipovers and pullovers of many colours. (Oh and the first show Maggie and I went to was “Joseph and the amazing technicolour dreamcoat.”)

The coloured stripes started with Dennis the Menace – then Maggie knitted my first multi-coloured striped pullover. It was a revelation = it helped me teach colour and maths.

The slipovers multiplied – and were shared through Kings Acre Church. Some have made their way into St James and the Joseph Messy Church was our first one, I think.

As Dolly Parton remembered her mother’s love in sewing. I appreciate the love that Maggie has put into each of the pullovers, slipovers, scarves etc.

Did you know that God is a knitter.

Psalm 139.13 “For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother’s womb.”

Dolly Parton shares her faith in the songs she writes and performs. So many people are sharing their faith in their daily work and caring even in these exceptional times.

Bible Reading: [Psalm 139: 1-18](#)

Song: If I were a butterfly, you can listen to it and watch it [here](#)

If I were a butterfly,
I'd thank you, Lord, for giving me wings.
And if I were a robin in a tree,
I'd thank you, Lord, that I could sing.
And if I were a fish in the sea,
I'd wiggle my tail, and I'd giggle with glee,
But I'd just thank you, Father, for making me Me!

*'Cause you gave me a heart,
And you gave me a smile
You gave me Jesus,
And you made me your child.
And I just thank you, Father, for making me Me!*

If I were an elephant,
I'd thank you, Lord, by raising my trunk.
And if I were a kangaroo,
I'd just hop right up to you.
And if I were an octopus,
I'd thank you, Lord, for my good looks.
But I'd thank you, Father, for making me Me!

If I were a wiggly worm,
I'd thank you, Lord, that I could squirm.
And if I were a crocodile,
I'd thank you, Lord, for my big smile.
And if I were a fuzzy wuzzy bear,
I'd thank you, Lord, for my fuzzy wuzzy hair.
But I'd just thank you, Father, for making me Me!

Dolly Parton's Coat of many colours can be listened to [here](#)