

## St James News: Thought for the day – Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> October 2020

**Rev John Marshall**

Joe Biden “My God my boy, my beautiful boy.”

I was fascinated to read these extracts from Joe Biden’ book in the I (Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> September 2020). I learned something about his life and prayer. I was moved by it.

The man could soon be the most powerful leader in the world. Joe Biden recounts the pain of losing his son Beau to cancer and opens up about how he dealt with a grief that nobody should suffer.

He has been a senator since 1972 and served as vice President under Barack Obama. He has suffered tragedies, just a few weeks after he became a senator, his wife Nellie and their one year old daughter were killed in a car accident. His sons Beau and Hunter survived the crash, but in 2015 Beau died from brain cancer, having been diagnosed in 2013.

“30<sup>th</sup> May 7.51pm It happened I recorded in my diary. My God my boy my beautiful boy..”  
When they saw an egret flying at a place Beau loved, his wife Jill said “It is a sign from God, Beau being at the lake one last time and heading for heaven.”

Joe looked at old pictures of his son and remembered what he had said at the death of his mother and sister. “It’s going to be ok Daddy, I’m not going away.”

Joe says “My religious faith provided some refuge. I’ve always found comfort in the ritual associated with my Catholicism. I find the rosary soothing, it’s almost like my meditation. And Mass is a place I go to be by myself, even in the middle of the crowd. I always feel alone just with God. “

He goes on to talk of his prayer life praying to God, and talking to family members who have gone on, asking them to intercede with God.

Joe Biden Promise me Dad.

Let us hold politicians in our prayers.