

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY: Friday 15th December 2023

By Revd Kit Gunasekera



Our two lovely Christmas trees went up last Friday and HUGE THANK YOU'S to all who have contributed towards them and decorated them so beautifully! They have already been a blessing to those who have seen them, inside and outside the church. It was so lovely to see children being fascinated by the outside tree at the wonderful Garden Carol singing on Wednesday night! That tree has had to battle high winds and rains over the last week or so and in the first 48 hours had toppled over and was put back up at least 5 times, and at least twice by unknown 'angels' - thank you so much whoever you are!

There are several things to think about in that, I think!

Some of us might be feeling like we are facing challenges that threaten to topple us over. Some of us might be feeling like we keep falling down, sometimes literally. Some of us might be feeling blessed by the kindness of others, who help us back onto our feet. And by the talents and gifts of others shining brightly and beautifully.

Whatever our circumstances, we all have the capacity to be 'angels' to others and we all have a light in us, so may that light shine brightly and beautifully!

Let us remember that at an another time, someone fell under the weight of a tree he was carrying, so that we can all rise to our feet.

BIBLE PASSAGE:

24 “He himself bore our sins” in his body on the tree, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; “by his wounds you have been healed.”

- 1 Peter 2:24

PRAYER:

Let us walk with you in the way of the cross, O Christ, faithfully enduring its demands, constantly sharing its message and daily revealing its love. Amen.

Prayer of the Palestinian Women of Jerusalem (date unknown)

A Prayer in Manx Gaelic – with translation:

Chiarn t'ou gobbraghey dy kinjagh ga nagh nodmayd fakin eh, ec traaghyn doillee kyndagh rish fuillaghtagh as guin, t'ou shooyl faggys dooin. T'ou nyn soilshey ayns ny traaghyn s'dorree; nyn dreisht tra ta dagh ooilley red cailt as nyn niart tra ta shin tuittym. Cooin lhien dy hreishteil ayns dty chummey as dy akin dty hashtaghyn ayndoosyn mygeayrt y mooin. Amen.

Lord, you are always working even though we might not see it, in difficult times of suffering and pain, walking next to us. You are the light in the darkest of times; the hope when all is lost and the strength when we fall. Help us to trust in your plan and see your treasures in those around us. Amen.

Amen.

Ealish Ayres, 3Gen, Isle of Man