

## **THOUGHT FOR THE DAY:**

**Revd Kit Gunasekera**

### **Connected**

Sometimes when I go into Sainsbury's, I am filled with a great sense, that we are all on the same side. That, everyone in the shop at that moment, for all the wonderful and not so wonderful differences that exists between us, and the vast majority of whom I will never know or speak to, are none the less my sister and my brother, that we are connected together, in a common struggle. It fills me with a profound sense of love and joy (for a brief time!) that must come from the Holy Spirit, and it helps me become more considerate and nicer.

Amid the horrors of the disaster in Turkey and Syria, I was touched by seeing images of some of the people from different nations mobilising to go and help. This is the page - <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-europe-64550201> It is a reminder again, that, for all the differences that exists between nations, when confronted with a tragedy, whether in this scale or much smaller and more closer to home, it can also bring the best out of people. We are reminded that we are our sisters and brothers keepers, that we share a common humanity. People not only want to help, they are happy to help. In these times, I don't think that we become different people for a little while, but rather, we discover who we truly are. This is the image of God, the child of God that we all are, no matter where we come from or what we believe. It demonstrates that deep inside we do possess the will and the desire to overcome our divisions.

John F. Kennedy's lofty words come to mind:

“So, let us not be blind to our differences--but let us also direct attention to our common interests and to the means by which those differences can be resolved. And if we cannot end now our differences, at least we can help make the world safe for diversity. For, in the final analysis, our most basic common link is that we all inhabit this small planet. We all breathe the same air. We all cherish our children's future. And we are all mortal.”

### **BIBLE VERSE:**

(Jesus said) “Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind’ and, ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’” - Luke 10:27