Thought for the day – Thursday 24th February 2022 by Revd John Ohen

"Lord do it for me"

History has it that when Billy Graham came to Britain for the first time as a young theological student. He visited and prayed where John Wesley lived and prayed. Billy Graham knelt and prayed on the same spot, until his teacher came back for him. His prayer was "Lord do it again", this time "Lord do it for me", so that he could bring more people to the Lord as John Wesley did.

Next Wednesday we will begin our Holy season of Ash Wednesday when we receive the Ash on our foreheads. The ancient disciplines of prayer, fasting and almsgiving all mark the beginning of our Lenten pilgrimage. The ash on our forehead is as a sign of penitents begging for mercy and peace. Some of us might just be saying "Lord do it for me for another year." "Lord continue to give us your peace and mercy till our life's end." At the heart of this holy season is an invitation from our God to return to him with all our hearts, seeking His healing and mercy.

Lent is a journey to Calvary, where we encounter the breadth, length, height and depth of Christ's love, a love that we might be filled with, all the fullness of God's love, and our prayer is a sign of our hunger and thirst for God.

Our fasting is a sign of sorrow for our sin and our wiliness to turn back to God as our maker. While our alms giving is a sign of gratitude, for we have received mercy, through generous giving, we equally show mercy.

Bible Verse:

"For this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found." So, they began to celebrate.

- Luke 15: 24

Prayer:

Lord Jesus, may your Spirit draw me towards the merciful love of the Father. Help me to humble myself and return to you with all my heart. Amen.