

**Thought for the day - Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> September 2021**

**By Revd John Ohen.**

**The Cross of Jesus is God's way of saying to the world "I love you".**

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son - John 3: 16. NIV.

Things to pray for - our City and the Community.

Prayers that change our church, community and culture by Pete Nicholas and Helen Thorne, said that "Cities buzz with people, hum with energy, and groans with different needs". He said that they are bursting with the opportunity for the gospel. If we want to be part of God's work, we need to pray passionately and powerfully for our city and community.

The cross of Jesus means a lot for us Christians, because God proved His love for the world on the cross of Jesus. This was God's way of saying to the world that He loves us. Jesus' Cross triumphs because it reveals the truth about God and about us, that although we are sinners, we trust in God's mercy and love. St John Chrysostom said that "by the cross, we know the gravity of sin and the greatness of God's love on the cities, communities and in our world.

Who would have chosen the cross to reveal God's love? Who would have chosen the cross as the way to reconcile us to the Father? God the Father chose the cross by dying and rising again Jesus as the Saviour of the world. God alone was able to transform the sign of defeat and death into a symbol of life and triumph. St Paul said that -

"For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God" (1 Cor: 1: 18).

In Jesus cross we see a description of the depravity of our sins, the depth of God's love for humanity and the only way of Salvation.

Bible Passage: John 3: 13 – 17.

PRAYER: Lord we pray for you to strengthen our faith in your service, and grant us a faith full of your peace, joy and hope to serve you now and always. Amen.