

Thought for the day – Wednesday 5th January 2022

New by Revd John Ohen

I would like to join in the tributes flowing from the queen to Archbishop Desmond Tutu who died on Boxing day. He was passionate about truth, justice, integrity, and forgiveness. May his soul rest in peace.

Isaiah 9. 6 – 7: “The people who walk in darkness have seen the light, He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onwards and for evermore”.

Thank God that my family and I, had a lovely Christmas and extremely pleasant New Year celebrations with children and grandchildren. We all enjoyed ourselves particularly the young ones who were playing and dancing out of tune to the music, sometimes tantrums when they couldn't have their own way. Christmas reminds us of a child who came 2,000 years ago and will return again to fulfil those promises to all the people. Jesus when he returns will bring Wisdom, Peace and Justice into our broken world and His kingdom will reign forever. Matthew 24. 36 says that “No one knows about that day or hour when these things will happen, except the Father.”

As we start a New Year, what can we take with us from last year into this new year? One thing remains strong in my mind and that is “how can I respond to Jesus's commandment “to put God first and to love your neighbour as yourself.”

If we were to consider the meaning of life on earth? The answer is, “Jesus of Nazareth.” Our lives find meaning, direction, and purpose in him because by and for him we were created. Equally Scriptures tells us that a time will come when at the name of Jesus every knee will bow, and every tongue confess that Jesus is Lord. Therefore, our reflection as we look back on the last year and look forward towards New Year. We should not look on our achievements or goals but on growing and maturing in our ability to give praise, glory, and honour to God for sending his Son Jesus to share in our humanity. We don't know what the New Year will bring, but we know that God is with us, in our failures, successes and in every moment of our lives.

Bible Passage: John 1: 1 -18.

PRAYER: In this New Year may we thirst to know the Father more deeply, love the Son more and more and walk in the Spirit more eagerly until we see you face to face. Amen.