

## Thought for the day – Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December 2023

by Revd John Ohen

### Advent.

A very famous theologian once said, “To err is human but to forgive is divine.” Forgiveness is not easy for any of us, but we just have to try. If we do it as often as we can, we get used to it. Forgiveness isn’t easy. In fact, it is impossible without grace.

Forgiveness is a great idea until you actually need to forgive. Then the thought of offering them unconditional and complete forgiveness, doesn’t come easily or naturally. Resentment is a bitter pill yet easier to swallow. We all need to prepare the way for the Lord. How do we forgive?

Firstly, we need to put everything in prayer. “Lord; I can’t possibly forgive that person “. The next step, “Lord, forgive me, heal my anger and resentment so that I may forgive from the heart and be set free”. We forgive more readily when we know we are forgiven.

Blessed are those whose transgressions is forgiven, for in receiving forgiveness, they forgive.

Bible passage: Matthew 18: 12-14

‘It is not the will of my Father who is in heaven that one of these little ones should perish’.

Prayer: Bless me heavenly Father for I have sinned, forgive me and I shall be forgiven, heal me and I shall be healed, restore me and I shall be restored.