

## **Thought for the day – Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> March 2021**

**Jill Howard-Gunasekera**

When we first started doing Thought for the Days, John Marshall, gently encouraged me to have a go at a 'Thought for the day'. He thought I might be good at one on cats!

Probably because Kit and I have two cats, Georgy and Clara, who I like to think of as chalk and cheese. Georgy we inherited from my sister Alex, when she emigrated to New Zealand. He was one of a litter of kittens born at the Church Inn, in St Helens, Merseyside, my home town. It's quite funny to think Georgy now lives in a Vicarage, perhaps one day we'll end up in a corner shop and he'll have done the rounds from pub to church to village shop! And Clara is actually French from a little village called St Laurent very close to where France meets Spain. I can tell you the story of Clara some other time! Needless to say they took a while to get on with each other when they first met, much hissing and a little spitting at times. I can't say that was because of their geographical backgrounds!

For a while we noticed a change in Georgy, he had noticed Clara lifting one of her front paws off the ground when she sank low and was stalking something outside. Georgy began to attempt the same thing, but it didn't stick. But we took it as a great sign that finally they were getting on. I'm reminded of the saying that mimicry is one of the highest forms of flattery, so I hope Clara was flattered.

However, I'm now trying to think of my link to the Bible. This is fairly tenuous so brace yourselves!

When we took Georgy to get his first booster, the vet said, this is a very lovely cat, in good condition; and when it came to giving him a worming tablet, he had to prise his mouth open, when he did, he was a little nervous and said, 'gosh he has got quite a large mouth'. I think he said 'cavernous!' I'm not sure Daniel had gone in with a large worming tablet to put off the lions, but perhaps the Angel of the Lord had done, and the lions had kept their mouths firmly shut! What I notice about animals in the Bible, is that they seem to see angels and hold them in high regard, remember Balaam's donkey.