

## Thought for the day - Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> May 2022

By Revd John Ohen

### PRAYER 🙏

Thank you all for your prayers on my recent holiday when I missed my flight for the first time. I couldn't believe my ears when they announced that checking in was closed. I thought I was dreaming and I stepped back and sat down as I was in shock or disbelief but to pray before using the phone multiple times.

One of the real problems we have about prayer is deciding when to carve out time to pray in our daily routine. Taking time out to pray can seem unreasonable and impractical. The benefits and blessings of prayer, however, far outweigh the very real and very pressing demands of our frantic and frenetic schedules, as the Holy Spirit will reveal to us, if we allow him to. It is the gentle voice of the spirit who invites us into the presence of God, so that we can be renewed and refreshed in body and spirit. Prayer enlarges the heart until it is capable of containing God's gift for himself.

The practice of taking time out to be still with the Lord is in decline. It is very important if we can, to take time out to pray. Take it to the Lord in prayer. Learning to listen to God's voice is a vital part of being a disciple. In the past God spoke in many and varied ways, through the Law, the Psalms, and the Prophets.

God has equally spoken to us through his Son Jesus Christ, and through him he made the universe as in (Hebrews. 1:1). God speaks to us today through prayers, reading the scriptures. In our conscience we hear the gentle voice of the vicar of Christ leading us to do what is right. In Eucharist, we receive the body and blood of Christ.

Prayer:

O Lord help me to listen to your voice and not my hardened heart. Lord soften my heart and give me hope and consolation through Jesus Christ our risen Lord. Amen.

Bible passage: John. 10: 27 -29

<sup>27</sup> My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me. <sup>28</sup> I give them eternal life, and they will never perish, and no one will snatch them out of my hand. <sup>29</sup> My Father, who has given them to me,<sup>[a]</sup> is greater than all, and no one is able to snatch them out of the Father's hand.