

Thought for the Day – Tuesday 5th July 2022

By Revd John Marshall

Whoever Welcomes

Mark 9.36-37: Then Jesus took a little child and put it among them and taking it in his arms, he said to them “Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me.” NRSV

Welcome, the word is always on your lips
Each welcome warms another one inside,
An interleaving of relationships,
An open door where arms are open wide.
First welcome to the child and through the child
A welcome to the Saviour of the world,
And through the Saviour’s welcome all are called
Home to the Father’s heart. Each call is curled
And nested in another, as you were
Nested and nestled in your mother’s womb,
As Mary carried One who carried her,
And we are wrapped in you, deep in the tomb,
Where you turn our rejection into welcome,
And death itself becomes our welcome home.

- Malcom Guite, Parable and Paradox, Canterbury Press

I am glad to see the children at St James, they have so much to teach us of the love of God.