

## **Thought for the day – Friday 16<sup>th</sup> April 2021**

### **Clara the welcomer by Jill Howard-Gunasekera**

I'm not entirely sure what got me thinking about being welcoming, how do we welcome each other, how do we like to be welcomed by others. I think it was a recent sermon in which Jesus appeared to be a little rude to someone asking for his help.

These thoughts led on to this one – out of our two cats, Clara is a committed welcomer! She never fails to go and see Georgey, our other cat, every time he comes in. She could be in a deep sleep and when she hears the catflap go, up she'll get and go off and welcome Georgey back in.

Georgey is also welcoming especially to people who come to visit, he is very warm and friendly, with a big dose of curiosity thrown in.

Once when my cousins came to stay, Ed said, Clara's like a lit candle in the window upon returning home. I loved that image. Often when we come down the drive from being out, we can see her silhouette or more prominently her neon eyes shining, just at the bottom of the glass of the front door. Clara welcomes. She is expectant of entrances (and exits) and likes to mark them.

What are your favourite welcoming sights?

How do we welcome? How do we like to be welcomed?