

Thought for the day – Tuesday 31st January 2023

By Revd John Marshall

After Prayer Distant Malcolm Guite

It's just those distant people we ignore,
Too indistinct for us, too far away,
But no one's really distant anymore.

It's not that we are selfish to the core,
But life's too short to go out of your way,
It's just those distant people we ignore.

We're fine with people whom we've met before,
The one's with whom we're living day to day,
But no one's really distant any more.

They showed his little body on the shore,
A toddler who had drowned along the way,
One of those distant people we ignore,

One of the refugees, one of the poor,
And not so long ago or far away,
For no one's really distant anymore.

Who is this wounded stranger at my door,
Claiming to be the God I keep at bay,
And making claims on me I can't ignore
Refusing to be distant anymore ?

Canterbury Press

Do you remember the news report? How do we pray?