

Thought for the day – Monday 4th December 2023

By Revd John Marshall

Road building Luke 3.1-6

Road building is rough work,
hard labour, muscles strained
hands calloused, back near breaking,
even with lifting gear, hard hat, protective boots.

Site clearance is dirty work
and dangerous
removing rotten structures,
risking unsafe ground,
uncovering long forgotten corruption,
the stink too strong to breathe
of waste and dereliction.

God you cry out to us
to clear the site, build the road
because you are coming
and you will come
along the road we build.

Give your people we pray
the will and stamina for the job.
Give us courage, to tackle the clearance
of debt and exploitation

which corrupt communities and nations.
Give us the grit and determination
to straighten out the crooked structures
which make it hard for the poor and the weak
to journey to freedom ---
and help us to shout aloud that you will come
along the road we build.

Heather Pencavel Shine on star of Bethlehem
Christian Aid Canterbury Press

Are we up for the road building and proclaiming?