

Reflection for Saturday 20th June 2020....Thinking about the Mission we support at St Mary's in June, which is the Falconer Children's Home and Orphanage, in Kabulamema, Zambia.

The last Newsletter I have was dated Christmas 2019 and it's heading: Nothing Is Impossible "For with God nothing will be impossible" (Luke 1: 37).

You can read about God's provision for seemingly impossible challenges. On the back of the Newsletter are the Prayer Points and the repeat of "Thank you" for the support and especially the Prayer.

All around the world different nations, leaders, groups, families and individuals are facing problems of hugely varying kinds. Yet, I have just read online the Wayland News copy for July. In the midst of lockdown, there are stories looking back and forwards with hope and we can share a smile, as Kay wrote about in her Reflection.

Hope is a gift we need to hold on to. It's so easy to be knocked back by the confusion of the crisis and forget appreciation for all we do have, wherever we are and to remember how we have been brought thus far....

Today is a day I shall drop in a card to a couple whose wedding I could have been taking tomorrow. Much has needed to be postponed. This week I have been telephoning all the Families whose Funerals I've taken. With them I've been looking back, but also forwards to the opportunity to celebrate the lives of their loved ones, when we're out of lockdown.

One Baptism has been postponed and two adults have asked me if I will baptise them. Hope in the future, with the God of the impossible, is stirring and there is something deeply significant about 'rites of passage' the Church offers; a new sense of 'belonging', as we go forwards in our lives.

Many of the Wild Church and other Reflections have included trees. Our large Ash tree was felled as it had root rot. In the hole at the stump Elaine has put plants. Hope comes from what was dying and a new beginning for roots of plants taking in the rainwater for their new life.



Water is one of the most precious commodities we can have and frequently take for granted when we turn on the tap. It's often when we have a problem with the plumbing, or in traumatic times of flooding, that we're reminded of the full impact of water's power to destroy. To read how the diesel generator is finally operational so running water can be re-established in the main Orphanage house, in Zambia, brings so much thanksgiving for how water can bring life.

Water cleanses, refreshes, restores, sustains life and gives life. In Baptism there is a new beginning symbolising cleansing, refreshing, redeeming love that gives us new birth to eternal life.



The water that Jesus gives never drowns or overwhelms, but fills and strengthens us. It's the power of the Holy Spirit within us, which will never run dry and doesn't need a tap on or off, because it's always present. We are always in God's presence. Jesus's smile came through much of his teaching and his ability to understand humanity. Our way to understand him is through thanksgiving, as we watch the impossible being made possible according to God's purposes, plans and pleasure; as we keep on in prayer and praise with hope and allow him to give us his smile.....

