



Dear friends,

As I write this.....

We here in my household are in a kind of holding pattern waiting for house sales to go through I find myself in a more reflective mood than normal.

As I write this the Sun has reappeared, the sky has stopped leaking and the large puddle on the drive of our rented house has finally dried up. We went for our normal afternoon walk but with friends this time who live in Whitchurch and found ourselves most unexpectedly in the forests and nature walks that sit on either bank of the River Taff between Whitchurch and Radyr. I had no idea that such tranquil beauty existed in what I thought to be a largely built-up area. I reflected that there is much about our local environment that I have not experienced or appreciated. Worse still, I have perhaps taken such wonders for granted. On Tuesday we mark World Environment Day. An opportunity perhaps to spend some time thanking God for our wonderful – if wounded – planet and commit ourselves to noticing it more and helping, where we can, to preserve and improve it.

As I write this; we are about to go for our second covid jab and we are looking forward an outside family gathering over the Bank Holiday weekend grateful for the reduction of some of the restrictions and that the prevalence of Covid seems to be being largely contained, variant strains notwithstanding. I reflected that whilst we are fortunate here to ready access to the vaccinations people in many parts of the world are not getting their fair share of the available vaccines, having neither the resource nor infrastructure to make them available. This week we also mark World Refugee Week. The plight of the millions of displaced people around the world fleeing war and persecution has largely been forced from the news as we are consumed by our own misfortunes. I hope I can spare more than a thought for those so much less fortunate than us.

As I write this; I have been pondering how difficult it is to say something new and exciting or even useful about the Holy Trinity of God. This Sunday is often given to new preachers to cut their preaching teeth upon. I am glad that this week this falls to Gareth and Vicki. For my part, I have been reflecting on the

many sermons I have heard; and explanations given, to explain what is largely inexplicable. Our wonderful, amazing, all powerful, unfathomable God of love has created us and loves us so much we have been placed on an amazing planet. Our wonderful God loves us so much He has given us everything we need for every living thing to survive and flourish. Our amazing God loves us so much He came to be with us so that we could know him. Our unfathomable God loves us so much that he has placed within us a means by which we creatures can connect with our Creator and enables that by His spirit.

As I write this, I am reflecting on the many ways in which I think I fail to really appreciate what God; Father, Son and Holy Spirit means to me and how much I have failed to do my bit to look after our wonderful planet, its flora and fauna and make sure God's rich provision is fairly distributed. Much to ponder now I have written this!

Have a wonderful Bank Holiday Weekend and Half term holiday,

God bless



Colin