

Reflection Friday 26th March

March, for my family has always been a frenetic month of birthdays and celebrations, As an example, this week alone there was my youngest son's birthday at the weekend, followed by my Nephew's and Grandson's on Wednesday – the latter complaining as this is his second birthday in lockdown and he is currently in self-isolation as someone in his class has a positive covid test. Then today belongs to my eldest son Matthew. I remember him complaining at the age of 4 because his party had to be cancelled as I had just had his younger brother by Caesarian a few days earlier.

It is strange how time and distance changes our perspective and make us refocus on what is important.

We are coming up to Palm Sunday and the incredible reception that Jesus has as he enters Jerusalem. And yet in a very short time things change and are seen differently. Even His disciples leave His side. How can things have come to this?

We are all looking to the end of lockdown and ultimately to the end of the pandemic. I am sure that what we reflect as we look back will not be what we are experiencing now. God gives us a way to cope and to get through the toughest of times. He also helps us to remember with positivity what we have gone through. The results of this pandemic will be lived out for years – not least to those who have lost loved ones. Yet in time light will come through. We will learn from our mistakes. And the nations have so much to give and share with one another.

We have so much – let's thank God every day for all that he has given us, but especially His love for us.

Pat Lock

Diocesan Reader