

Wednesday Thoughts

The Prodigal Son

It's certain none of us can say we have never needed forgiveness for having done something wrong – it's instinctive - we begin at an early age when our parents say “don't do that”, but we do!

The story in the Bible (NRSV Luke 15) of the Prodigal Son who was not the best of characters is a reminder. He's bombastic, shows no care for his family - the world is his oyster – he knows when dad dies he and his brother will inherit the farm, but is not prepared to wait. He wants what is his entitlement here and now. Sad as Father feels he gives the son his share of the estate. Off the boy goes without a backward glance and is joined by so-called friends who will always butter up to someone with cash - together they go on a spree of carousing and all that goes with it. Inevitably the money runs out and so do the friends – he's left alone in a pig sty – what utter humiliation for a Jewish boy. Thankfully he comes to his senses - knows there is only one action left – he must return home and ask for forgiveness, which is our theme this week.



We may find time for thinking during these worrying and frustrating days – is there someone we need to say ‘sorry’ to, and ask to be forgiven? In our understandable frustration at being house bound have we yelled at the kids, said hurtful things to those nearest and dearest to us? It's more than likely – let's not let this dreadful virus take us over mentally as well as physically – when we act or speak unkindly let's all say sorry – as many of us are quite aware knowing you have been forgiven is a real uplift. We are so grateful having apologised and know those apologies are accepted it eases our heavy burden: it helps us to travel our various roads with a lighter load and with greater hope and confidence.

These are very bad days for the whole world, and most especially for the millions who had nothing to begin with, but the days will end and perhaps teach us all to say ‘sorry’ and ask to be forgiven.

Blessings to everyone