

**8th Sunday of Trinity 2nd August**

Dear Friends,

I hope and pray that this letter finds all our church family fit and well and that you continue to enjoy all the pastimes you have found to occupy yourselves with at this time. First, I would like to convey my thanks to everyone for their messages of encouragement and support in putting last Sunday’s worship together, it meant so much to me. THANK YOU.

During Compline this past week I have encouraged people to reflect on some quite simple things of life.

I encouraged people to smile. After a ‘catch up’ with some friends, all former colleagues it was good for them and all of us to be able to smile and laugh through some of the difficult days of the past few months.

Water was also a focus. It was when I was told earlier in the week that I would be without water the following day that I realised how important this basic commodity is in our lives, from the basic cup of tea/coffee to the use in the food production industry and the sadness that the profits made from our monthly men’s breakfast will mean that their donation towards the work of Water Aid will be severely depleted this year.

Anthony in his homily talks about the importance of bread in particular how this enabled a group of refugee children during World War 2 to sleep well each night holding a piece of bread and gave reassurance of being fed the following day.

Three simple contributions to our lives, a smile, water and bread. In a world where we think we have been deprived of much recently, it is still comforting to realise that these basic ingredients in life have still been available to us and brought comfort in different ways.

During the coming weeks as you boil your kettle pray for the work of Water Aid; as you make a sandwich pray for those who are deprived of this most basic of food and finally remember to smile at someone, it may help them to relieve some tensions of this strange world we currently live in.

There will again be Eucharist taking place on Sunday 2nd August at The Church of the Ascension, Larchcroft Road, starting at 6.30 and once again led by Father John Thackeray. Compline will continue on Facebook at 9.00pm each evening.

I look forward to ‘seeing’ as many of you as possible on Sunday at 9.30am

God Bless,

Maureen