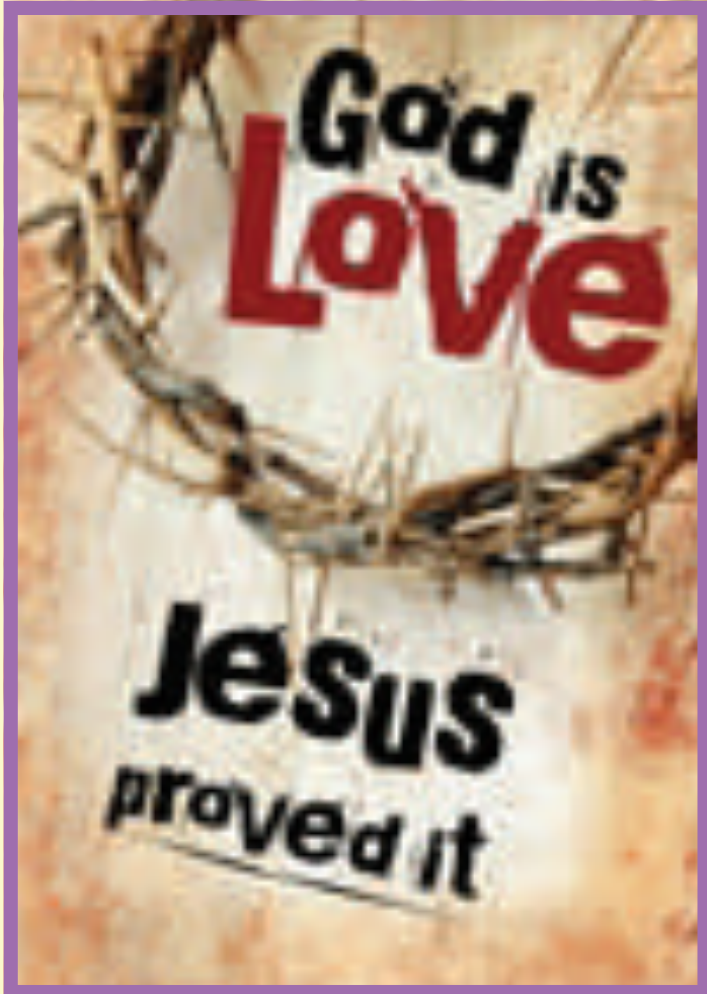


Lent Week 5 —2010



Sunday 21st March—Week 5

Lord, let me not be so removed from the rhythm of natural things that I fail to hear you speaking to me in the wind; so cushioned by mechanical comforts that I fail to feel to feel your power in the warmth of the sun; so bedazzled by the brilliance of our inventions that I fail to see your light in the morning sky. Lord, grant me the wisdom of the mind of an adult, but keep within me the heart of a child



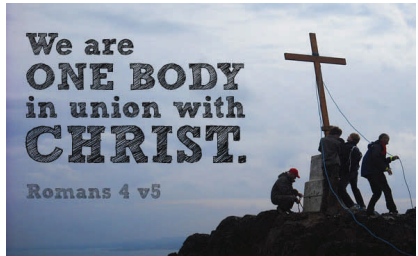
Monday 22nd March

If there is any path on which I can approach you Lord, it must lead through the very middle of my ordinary life. Your love, which can allow my daily routine to remain routine and still transform it into a home-coming to you; this love only you can give. When I reach out in joy or in sorrow for the things of this world, grant that through them I may know and love you



Tuesday 23rd March

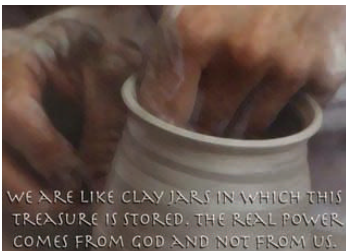
Lord, the Roman officer whose servant was ill sent you a message: *“I am not worthy to receive you, but only say the word and my servant will get better.”* We too can say that we are not worthy, Lord, to have you with us—but isn’t your message all along that you wish and choose to be with us? We spend a moment reminding ourselves that you choose to be here with us now.



Wednesday 24th March

Always think of God as your lover. Therefore he wants to be with you. He wants your attention, as every lover wants the attention of the beloved. He want to listen to you , as every lover wants to hear the voice of the beloved. If you turn to me and ask— “Are you in love with God?”—I would pause, hesitate and say, — “I am not certain. But of one thing I am certain: that he is in love with me.”
Cardinal Basil Hume.

Thursday 25th March



Lord of creation, moulder of our fragile clay, shape us in your image. Spin us round, if you must, until we are dizzy. Hollow us out, if you must, until we are

Empty of all that is false and useless. Fill us daily with living water that we may carry your life to a world dying of thirst.

Friday 26th March

We are misled by pictures which show Jesus as the Good Shepherd carrying a cuddly little white lamb on his shoulders. No, a lamb will hardly ever stray from its mother. It is the troublesome, obstreperous sheep which is likely to go astray, going through a fence, falling into a ditch of dirty water. It is this dirty, smelly creature which the Good Shepherd carries on his shoulders and calls his friends to celebrate with him.



Archbishop Desmond Tutu.

Saturday 27th March

If the ocean was ink, and if every blade of grass was a quill with which to write; if the earth itself was parchment, and if every person started to write on it, there would not be enough ink or pens or parchment or people to write fully of God's love and goodness to us.

Hymn of the Jewish Community.