

A word has just popped into my head, and I'll have to share it with you; foreshadowing! The first steps along the journey of Holy Week. But why foreshadowing?

Well, it speaks of something that is a bit intangible, a bit hidden, which will be revealed or seen or felt at some point. That's Holy Week, and this year there is added poignancy, with all that each of us experience in our hearts and spirits every day, in the uncertainty of the moments we inhabit.

The gospel reading for today has Jesus sharing a meal with Martha, Lazarus (the one who Jesus raised from the dead), and others, including his betrayer, Judas, a few days before his crucifixion. There are lots of undercurrents and things unspoken, which I guess we can all identify with in the moments in which we now live.

The thing that resonates with me, is the moment when completely out of the blue, Martha broke open some costly perfume and anointed Jesus' feet...normally an act that would have happened to the body after death. That whole foreshadowing thing; the weaving of seemingly isolated moments...Jesus made the connection between her anointing of him and his impending journey to and through the cross and the resurrection beyond. Lazarus was also there in that moment, as large as life, resurrected from the dead!

Apologies that last paragraph seems a bit long winded! But in a nutshell, 'stuff was happening' at an alarming rate; and no-one wanted to miss out on the evidence of a miracle. Jesus sure knew how to draw a crowd.

People were naturally curious, like we are. Wanting to understand, believe, perhaps disbelieve, I don't know where you are in all this. But Jesus had a real following, there was no doubt about that. Resurrection was a game changer.

But what about us, 2000 years later? How does all this resonate with you, if at all?

Life is always uncertain, we each of us have known those times or moments in our own lives. We are all struggling with the moments we are living through. Just like people were in the times we read of in the gospels. Making sense,,,mmmmmm!

But the witness is that God absolutely understands what it is to be human; because he became human in the man Jesus; who was born, lived, and died in his early thirties. But, and this is the big but....was raised back to life, 3 days after being laid in a rock hewn tomb.

This is the bedrock of my faith...faith in God who understands and loves us completely, because he has been on the human journey. Birth, life, death....and the real clincher, resurrection.

Please forgive this romp though some powerful stuff, but please be assured of my prayers and thoughts, and know that God walks with you, each moment of this Holy Week and beyond!

The Lord Bless you and Keep you,

Barrie