

Thought for the Week
6th October 2019
27th Sunday in Ordinary time

How long Lord am I to cry for help?

In the First reading, we are told not to despair when we see that injustice, tyranny and violence continue throughout the world. A modern interpretation of the Reading could be that we should not expect ‘quick fixes’; something many of us demand in these times of fast digital communication. We would all do well to bear in mind that what emerges from a more prolonged period of thought and reflection is all the more valuable.

“It does not deceive, if it comes slowly.”

In order to stay the course through long spells of challenging times, we need to stay strong and call on the Holy Spirit, taking heed of the Psalm which calls on us to outwardly celebrate our love of Christ .

“Come, ring out our joy to the Lord,”

This is in keeping with what St Paul reminds us in his letter to Timothy: God’s gift was not a spirit of timidity, but the spirit of power, and love and self-control. And he urges us to:

“Fan into flame the gift that God gave you”

Perhaps this is something we can reflect on as we enter the season of autumn bonfires. As the nights draw in, the mood can lower, but there’s an upside: time for reflection, calm, restoration. And we can use the opportunity to come together as a community, brightening up the gloom with fun activities and a spiritual camaraderie that is an inspiration for all.

Jim McGuigan