Thought for the week 3rd February 2019 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Be ambitious for the higher gifts.....I had to read this several times. I tell my children to dream big and dream they must.

We all have dreams and aspirations to achieve great things, to be the best that we can- but at what? That is the question.

The readings this week reassures us of our Lord's saving help, of being there to help us in times of trial, of being our rock, our stronghold. The fact that the readings detail the help we get means God knows our potential for weakness.

The definition of Love in the second reading, which we have all heard so many times, is actually very challenging. The words 'always' and 'never' stood out for me - I am not 'always' patient and kind to those I love...and I hope I am not alone in admitting that how I 'love' each day sometimes depends on all sorts of things, some as trivial as waking up on the wrong side of the bed.

So perhaps this should be the big dream: to love as we should, as guided by St Paul in the second reading. And to endeavour to make small steps each day until we get to the 'always' state of love.