

Reflection 28th June 2020

Over the past months lockdown has given us an opportunity to take stock and consider what really matters.

The writer and thinker, GK Chesterton was right, 'The way to love something is to realise that it might be lost'.

We know that we ought to love and care for the good things that surround us and yet often it is only when something is absent that we come to recognise its importance.

This is true in our personal relationships and in our inter-actions in our churches and in our community projects.

It was encouraging to read about the efforts of a small congregation in Banchory who managed to raise £5000 in twelve days to buy laptop computers for young students.

The school chaplain Reverend Tony Stephen said, 'Everyone wanted to help because young people in our community are a priority for us.

The engagement of conversation has rocketed and been a real joy to witness'.

In our Presbytery, in the weeks that lie ahead, reflect on how best we can prioritise the things that will further Christ's mission and ministry.

In our conversations one with the other we should be guided by the Apostle Paul's words of wisdom. 'Let your speech always be with grace, as though seasoned with salt, so that you will know how you should respond to each person.' (Colossians 4:6)

God bless,

Jacqueline

Prayer 28th June 2020

Creator God we thank you for by your grace you have given us a world full of beauty and wonder. You care for all people and do not turn away anyone whose desire is to follow you. Father recognising your power and glory we thank you for all the possibilities each new day in your service offers to us. Countless opportunities to talk and to listen, to care and comfort.

Loving God as we share in conversations with your people grant us grace to see the point of view of others and grant us humility to know when our thoughts are either wrong or right. Guide us in all our responses and help us to build a spirit of love and openness, acceptance and understanding. Equip us to follow you more closely, trusting you completely and to obey your will more faithfully, so that our lives as well as our words may give honour to you. Amen