

Tony Thinking Aloud xlix

Last Sunday we were thinking about our Mothers and how important they are to all of us. During the Benefice Service we were invited to light a candle. Like the light of a candle in the darkness, our Mother makes all the difference to our lives.

This Sunday it is the Census, a way of experiencing the family of the nation, but very impersonal.

However, everyone in the Census has been having a very anxious time with Covid affecting us all. It has unexpectedly brought us together.

So, as we are hopefully approaching the slow move from Lockdown, we can pause, think, pray and hope.

Joyful reunions with the family after months, a longer walk, a car ride, and youngsters may want to go to Alton Towers! Planning hopefully for a staycation.

But at the route of it all are personal relationships. No longer just texts, zoom parties, phone calls. There is nothing like personal contact.

We are all sociable folk, and we want to share! Perhaps we have done wonders with the garden, we want others to see, and we want to be together.

The pandemic has bought a lot of people together. Perhaps people we really did not know, to give support to each other.

So, we learn, so we understand, that with the guiding hand of God we are closer and share our humanity.

These thoughts can be with us on Tuesday, the first anniversary of Lockdown, when we join the National Day of Reflection to remember the Covid victims. Remember too their families. There is an invitation to stand with local communities and pause for a minute at Noon.

May they rest in peace.