

Tony Thinking Aloud xxix

Weather forecast

Lovely summer like days that focus around October 18<sup>th</sup> are called Saint Luke's Little Summer in honour of the saint's feast day. This weekend looks a bit unpromising!

What do we know about Saint Luke? The third gospel in the New Testament bears his name, he is also known too as the writer of the Acts of the Apostles, which follows the four gospels. He was anxious to share the message of the Good News of Jesus.

We learn in The Epistle to the Colossians Chapter 4 verse 14, also in the New Testament, that Luke was too a physician. He is the Patron Saint of Doctors and those in many aspects of medical care.

So Saint Luke wanted to share the good news ('Gospel' meaning Good News) and when he met people in need, as a doctor he would care for them.

Let's look at that in the present situation. We have learnt to be the bearer of 'good news' and hope to folk who are in need of help or urgent support, who are lonely or isolated. Like Saint Luke, the doctor, we do not hold back help we can give.

Saint Luke's Little Summer comes with the calendar every year, although brighter sometimes than others. We have thought over the weeks that the Hand of God never changes and is there to give us support in the most challenging times. It looks as if more challenges are ahead. Like Saint Luke we need to be there with 'good news' for all we meet and know. We must not forget that folk often need someone when it is not obvious! The Good News of Luke's Gospel is there all the time ... We should be there ready at all times to address any situation which needs us in the pandemic

Our prayers need be to be for each and every one of us, just as Saint Luke's message is there for all who wish to receive it. Like a doctor we never know when we may be needed.