

Tony thinking aloud iii

On my daily walk I pass a house which has more rainbows in the window every day. A thank you message to the NHS and those we support on Thursday evening.

We meet the rainbow in the bible (Genesis Chapter 9) in the dramatic story of Noah and the Flood, the rainbow is the sign that such a flood would never happen again. It is a sign of reassurance and hope for the future.

The end of the present crisis may seem a long way off, we realise we have to play our part – self isolation, restricted activity ... Like Dorothy in the Wizard of Oz we look to the time when we can ‘wake up with the clouds behind us’ and look ‘over the rainbow where the skies are blue’.

We remind ourselves as we reflected two weeks ago that we rest in the Hand of God. A demanding time, we find his support there for each of us, whether we ask for it and accept it or not.

Our prayers are prayers of support and thanks for the NHS, carers and all providing necessary support so that life can go on in this difficult time. We need to remember those in sadness at loss of loved ones.

You may remember my mate who didn’t do God, but in crisis he reflected differently. God is there for all of us, all the time!

Do not forget the rainbow has a small dark beginning at the centre but as it moves out gets bigger, we have the bright colours. Reflect on the bright colours as we look positively to the future.

Michael Ball sang to Captain Tom this morning as he raised £17 million for the NHS, at 99 he completed a walking challenge in his garden – ‘When you walk through a storm hold your head up high and don’t be afraid of the dark – walk on with hope in your heart and you will never walk alone’.

We are not alone we are in the Hand of God., through thick and thin. I have consciously experienced that in my life and I expect you may well have done so too.

May God bless you.

*Tony Wood was Vicar of Barton for some years, he now lives in Branston.*