

Thinking aloud viii

When I was a toddler, I had a book of birds with a big kingfisher on the front, I loved it but was so disappointed when I discovered that kingfishers are really quite small. I met up with the kingfisher on Sunday in Countryfile. It was as if the two kingfishers were related over the years! Everything would be the same for the kingfisher now as seventy years ago.

Not for us! My grandmother spent Monday morning boiling the copper and using the dolly and the rubbing board to do the washing. We do not even do the washing today, the machine in the corner does it for us! If we wanted to send a message, it was a letter with an (old) penny stamp, for us today it is a chat on the tablet.

So, life has flowed for us until now. Creation is ongoing for us all, but Coronavirus has stopped everything. We look at life in a very different way. If we were told six months ago, we would be spending most of our time at home and wearing a mask to do the shopping we would not have believed it!

A time to pause and think, think about others, the vulnerable and the elderly, perhaps relating to neighbours we hardly knew. A time to reflect on life, on the basics, no doubt appreciating our family and friends more, and not taking things for granted and remembering. Remembering as we clap on Thursday night the NHS and the Carers. Those who work to make life possible for us all. Being supportive of those who are shattered because of bereavement.

The kingfisher knows little about this, we share the experience of a beautiful summer weather while we learn to appreciate the support of others, our opportunity to live less isolated lives and perhaps less selfish!

We remain concerned, anxious, apprehensive, need to lift our thoughts in our prayers, having confidence in the creator God of all nature there for us all the time.