

Tony Thinking Aloud xxii

Harvest Festival is coming ... let's think about it.

It seems as if we have been standing still since the beginning of the year...apprehensive, bored and angry with the lockdown.

But things have not been standing still! Work on the land began on Plough Sunday (the first Sunday after Epiphany) at the beginning of January. Seeds have been sown for a new crop, we prayed about it on Rogation Sunday (the Sunday before Ascension Day in May) ... and seeds do not know about lockdown they have been busy growing unseen in the earth. God in creation is at work all the time!

Now the seeds are bringing the harvest. A few weeks ago we thought about Lammas (Loaf Mass) Day the 1st August. Traditionally the first loaf to be baked from the new harvest is used at the Holy Communion on that day. Soon we will be giving thanks for the completion of the harvest at Harvest Festival.

As we sit and complain about the lockdown.... God provides for us, in all aspects of our need, but most notably in the fruits of harvest.

The trees in my garden have spent these months as they always do, responding to creation in the cycle of the seasons. I could have moaned to them about the lockdown, but it would not have made much difference!!!!

We need to learn from nature. We should put our trust in God as he is always there for us, whether we acknowledge Him or not.