



**Tuesday 26th October 2021**

**Tuesday of the thirtieth week in Ordinary Time Year 1**

### **First Reading**

**Rom 8:18-25**

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

*The whole creation is eagerly waiting for God to reveal his children.*

I think that what we suffer in this life can never be compared to the glory, as yet unrevealed, which is waiting for us. The whole creation is eagerly waiting for God to reveal his sons. It was not for any fault on the part of creation that it was made unable to attain its purpose, it was made so by God; but creation still retains the hope of being freed, like us, from its slavery to decadence, to enjoy the same freedom and glory as the children of God. From the beginning till now the entire creation, as we know, has been groaning in one great act of giving birth; and not only creation, but all of us who possess the first-fruits of the Spirit, we too groan inwardly as we wait for our bodies to be set free, For we must be content to hope that we shall be saved – our salvation is not in sight, we should not have to be hoping for it if it were – but, as I say, we must hope to be saved since we are not saved yet – it is something we must wait for with patience.

### **Reflection By Fr John Lovell**

Today's First Reading is from St Paul's letter to the Christian community in Rome he was planning to visit very soon. By this time, he'd established churches across many parts of the Eastern Mediterranean and was writing this letter as he was making his last visit to the mother Church in Jerusalem with funds he'd collected for her from its many Gentile children churches. Being an Apostle of seemingly inexhaustible energy and vision, Paul was looking forward to spending time with the Christian church in Rome and then travelling further west to preach the faith in Spain.

This is a letter filled with hope. Hope not only for those who are saved by faith in Jesus Christ, but hope that at the end of time all of Creation will be renewed and attain the lasting glory and perfection intended for it by the Creator.

How does this relate to us now? Well, for many decades now we have been a 'throw away' society, living as if our natural resources and waste dumps were limitless. In recent times, however, we have developed a new focus involving recycling and less pollution. The Pope's encyclical *Laudato Si* tells us to respect and care for our natural world. This is great and we must continue to do all we reasonably can to continue along this path. Yet, it's also important for us not worry and to keep all things in perspective, because we are a people of hope and whatever happens, in the end, the Lord will set everything right.

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