

Thoughts on the Daily Word

14th Week of Year. Monday 7th July. Readings: Genesis 28:10-22; Psalm: 90; Matthew 9:18-26.

Being saved opens the Gospel story. The two women will be given life and health. 'Being saved' is not a usual term for us Catholics. It tends to be used by evangelical Protestant churches. It is not an easy concept in the Gospels. It moves from its literal meaning of life and health to being brought into the wider family of Jesus. Jacob experiences being saved. He could be hunted down by his brother for appropriating the promise to Abraham. The vision of the ladder, or possibly a stepped temple known as a ziggurat in Mesopotamia, assures Jacob of salvation. God will protect him and bring about the promised fulfilment. Remember at that time there was no concept of eternal life. Perhaps we Catholics need to explore further the actual meaning of salvation. Is it more than going to heaven or is it a vision of a new life and a new world, the promise of Shalom, the Peace of God.