

Thoughts on the Daily Word

21st Week of Year. Thursday 28th August. Readings: 1 Thessalonians 3:7-13; Psalm: 89; Matthew 24:42-51.

Expectant faith is probably the most difficult of things to achieve. The Gospel calls us to be alert and ready while Paul encourages the Thessalonians to have that same sense of readiness. Perhaps they expected the end of the world, and that sense gave them the capacity to be ready for change. When we settle down to the predictable and safe world, at least in our part of the world, then our desire to change fades away. The pandemic has brought about a new sense of the instability of our society. Never would we have thought that we would be panic buying! The Trump presidency has exacerbated that uncertainty. Our 'safe' western world has slowly to realise that we need to challenge our certainties. We have replaced Christian faith with secular or so-called scientific thinking only to find that the world is even more unpredictable. We have found other gods only to find them more frightening than ever. The loving God that Paul preaches and teaches is the only way to allow a loving world to blossom. It can't be engineered or computerised, it has to come out of the human heart as a free gift of God.