

**Thoughts on the Daily Word**

*3<sup>rd</sup> Week of Year. Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> January. Readings: 2 Samuel 7:4-17; Psalm: 89; Gospel: Mark 4:1-20.*

God challenges David's ambition by refusing the offer of a house, or temple. God emphasises the story of the Exodus as a reminder that his People are on a journey. The temple will have to give way to a new image, that of the Body of Christ, but that will take time to discover. Our Gospel uses the agricultural metaphor to describe a growing faith. Every one of us must have faced the challenge of asking just where we are in the story. I constantly get the reply that I worry too much, and everything gets choked. Don't think the lure of riches gets to me but anxiety certainly does! This is where good pastoral nurturing helps, sometimes called spiritual direction. The old Irish term described it as spiritual accompaniment, or anamcara, the journey of friends.