

Thoughts on the Daily Word

3rd Week of Year. Friday 31st January. Readings of Day: Hebrews 10:32-39; Psalm: 36; Gospel: Mark 4:26-34.

We live in times rather like that of the early Church. Christians are now a small number, a remnant, in most societies. In Britain we live in one of the most secular countries in the West, if not the whole world. This can seem depressing as we live among the ruins of centuries of Christian civilisation. However, we can take heart as we are still in the beginning of our catechumenate time when we are learning again, just like the early Christians who developed this process, what Church is all about. It is built on the community gathering to hear God's Word. When I was young the first part of the Mass was known as the Mass of the Catechumens. This was the gathering to listen to the Word until the second part, known as the Mass of the Faithful. Today's Gospel Word takes us back to the beginning, Jesus surrounded by the crowds and telling them that God was at work, hidden and often underground. What could this uneducated worker possibly have to say to the world? A world dominated by Roman power and Greek culture! We can now see what that hidden seed could do for our world. Just like the Hebrews we need to be reassured that God's kingdom is at work and that maybe He does it best with a remnant, like us!