



# The Sporadic Musings

Thank you for your engagement with themes chosen by the random functioning of a 'less than normal' brain ...

Our ancestors gave much in striving to make their world more just, their descendants enjoying the fruits of their struggles. Be grateful for them and in your turn make sacrifices for the sake of the future.

This is the 'current Chaplain' checking out via these last 'Musings'. Thank you to my readership - those who have been patient with the rambling, those who have challenged my thinking as i hope i have stretched some of yours. The journey continues....

Despite what 'those who like me, seek to follow in the footsteps of a Galilean Preacher' do to and through and in the name of the church, it has survived for more than two thousand years. I have never been one of those driven to an existentialist crisis - church growth, whatever that means, is not my responsibility.

Mine as a priest, and yours as a member of the royal priesthood (1Peter2.9) is to be faithful in and to your calling. That includes prayer and wisdom and vocation and above all love and constantly reflecting on what these mean and what they look like in practice.

Where i do experience any notions of an existentialist crisis is in relation to the well-being and indeed survival of our beloved planet. I have no signs of any grandchildren ever

arriving - so my motivation is - the world as pure gift. A gift which has given us food and water and medicine and air and all the other means of survival. A gift that feeds our senses and our hearts and souls and gives us glimpses of what 'beauty' might actually mean before we arrive at the throne of grace and are overwhelmed by being in the presence of Beauty.

Sure, changes are being made, but all too little and too late (a phrase loved by teachers !). Absolutely every purchase we make should go through the filter of - do i need this - for body/mind/soul.

What i feel even more passionate about however, in any of its guises, is how we value people. Especially people who are 'other' than we are - racial, gender, neuro-diversity .... and other (in)justices. We can attend any number of conferences, read books, if we don't constantly watch our thinking and our language we are but 'noisy cymbals' (1Corinthians13).



'it's 3:23 in the morning and i can't sleep because my great great grandchildren ask me in my dreams "what did you do while the earth was unravelling ?"'

## The Earth We Walk Upon The Ancestry We Bring With Us

I happened upon this strap-line in London and have reflected on it ever since.

Both are gift. Gifts i bring to others in my time on earth, gifts i am given by other people as we share something of life's journey. For some it is a one-time encounter, for others a sharing of some tragedy, for most a few years where our jobs or neighbourhoods or the ages of our children or a shared passion that brings us together for a while. Our choice then to feel threatened or to feel enriched. Our choice to guard or to share freely.

Blessings then -

The Lord bless you and keep you  
The Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious to  
you

The Lord turn his face toward you and give you peace.  
peace in our world our homes our hearts

*#chaplaincheckingout*