

Dear friends,

I have recorded a YouTube video on my reflection on the day's readings called "Love is a many splendored thing". You can access it by clicking on this link.

<https://youtu.be/gdApj-8QcMU>

Alternatively, if you'd prefer to read it you can do so here on my Blog. <https://revmartinjacques.blogspot.com/2020/10/love-is-many-splendored-thing.html>

## Christmas is a coming and the goose is getting fat!

**Just** to keep everyone in the loop, after the success of our Harvest filmed service we are planning a Christmassy Filmed offering that is more family oriented with the "Open the book" team, carols, a few readings and a piece on how to make a Christingle and its meaning. This will hopefully coincide with us distributing a colourful booklet to every primary school child called "It begins in Bethlehem".

**We** are also planning a more adult oriented offering based on the Advent carol service which is currently with our musical Director to decide the final content.

**I am** also collating opinion/possible input on the content of "Live" services - what we will call "Christmas services" rather than Carol services because we cannot sing at present. I hope to stage a Christmas service at each church so watch this space.



The woman anointing Jesus' feet and drying them with her hair

## **The lighter side!** Courtesy of Mike in Gainford

It was the Vicar's last Sunday morning before he moved to a new parish. A long line of people waited to say their goodbyes. All sincere, some tearful and finally the last was old William who was twisting his cap and clearly upset. "Don't worry William" said the Vicar kindly "the new person who is coming is very well spoken of. I am sure you will get along fine." "Oh no we won't" said the old chap. "I have lived here all my life and I have seen nine Vicars, and every one has been worse than the last"

## **Musical interlude!**

"Love is a many splendored thing" by Nat King Cole. Enjoy. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hnPbneUdjcs>

**The Prayer for Today** is by Helder Camara and might be considered a bit "out there" by some but is interesting to me as a collection of unconnected everyday things that could conceivably be replaced by a score of different unconnected seemingly banal things but which are the stuff of life, and that there is nothing in creation beyond the orbit of God

**The milk float,  
The poor man begging,  
The staircase and the lift,**

**The railway lines, the furrows of the sea,  
The pedigree dog and the ownerless dog,  
The pregnant woman,  
The paper boy,  
The man who sweeps the streets,  
The church, the school,  
The office and the factory,  
Streets being widened,  
Hills being laid low,  
The outward and the homeward road,  
The key I used to open my front door;  
Whether sleeping or waking –  
All, all, all,  
Make me think of you.  
What can I give to the Lord  
For all that he has given me.**

Love and peace,  
Martin

Please note my new email address is [vicar@rmcommunity.co.uk](mailto:vicar@rmcommunity.co.uk)