

Prayer and Reflections

18th April

Services

10:30 Mr Martyn Filsak

6:30 Revd Peter Bradley

<https://www.valeofstour.org.uk/virtual-church/live/>

Services 24/7

<https://www.valeofstour.org.uk/virtual-church/player>

Our P&R Share it with your friends

<https://www.providence-methodist.org.uk/our-church/prayer-and-reflections>

Notices

It is intended to resume worship in the church on the 23rd May

36 Days

Prayer

Dear Lord We give thanks for the long life of Prince Philip, for all that he has contributed to our nation and beyond, and for his support of our Queen. We pray that he will be at rest trusting in the grace of God. We remember before you Her Majesty the Queen and her family praying that they will know your comfort and strength in the days to come. In Jesu Name we Pray Amen

Reflection Sandra

Take your gifts when they are offered.

I had Covid in March 2020 and because I worked in school I shielded. Bob had long since retired and so, we spent the spring and summer enjoying the sun on our faces, the beauty of God's hand in the nature found in the garden and the birds of the air (how much more precious are we?). The quiet was almost surreal, a balm amidst untold horrors. Unbeknown to us, Bob had begun to lose weight. In July he was diagnosed and in September - he passed away. We had a summer of warmth, a love of nature and the beauty of the garden birds that spoke to us every day. I walked in faith with my God, Bob walked with me. We had, not realising it, the gift of time as well. Time to enjoy each other's company. The gift of the sun and its warmth, the birds and their beautiful voices.

And like many, we walked - to places we had long forgotten about. Some in reality and some through pictures and videos.

We were not alone and as Christians, we send our condolences and prayers to Her Majesty The Queen for the loss of His Royal Highness, The Duke of Edinburgh. They too were able to spend time together during the pandemic without the pressure of state until her beloved husband's untimely death. They walked together for 73 years; both in service of the country and each other. Both deeply committed Christians.

When we walk with God, let us take our loved ones with us, in our hearts, in our minds, in our souls and side by side. Let us take our gifts when they are offered for; The Lord works in mysterious ways, his wonders to perform.

Sandra

Reflection

A class of students were asked to list what they considered the seven wonders of the world to be. After a lot of discussion and some disagreement, they arrived at the following list

The Egyptian Pyramids;
The Taj Mahal
The Grand Canyon;
The Panama Canal;
The Empire State Building;
St Peter's Basilica;
The Great Wall of China.

While the teacher was gathering up the lists, she noticed that one quiet girl in the corner hadn't made any contribution to the discussion and hadn't handed her list in. So she asked the girl if she was having trouble with her list, because if she shared her ideas with the class and told them what she had, then they would be able to help her.

The quiet girl replied ' I am having a little difficulty because there are so many, But I think the Seven Wonders of the World are

To Touch;
To Taste;
To See;
To Hear;
To Feel;
To Laugh
and To Love.

The teacher was startled and the room was so quiet that you could hear a pin drop.

The quiet girl had challenged them in their thinking and reminded them to look at things differently. Sometimes the simple and ordinary things are the most wonderful, and we don't have to travel far and wide to experience them.

Slow down.....Touch, Taste, See, Feel, Hear, Laugh, Love.

Just enjoy your gifts from God. *Pat*