

26<sup>th</sup> November 2020

## Blessed

**“I understand ... [that] my moving from hence to there may be blessed.”**

*Plato, Phaedo*

Seeing the crowd and remembering the instructions to gather outdoors in groups of no more than fifteen, Jesus went up the mountain. And when he sat down, his disciples came to him, appropriately socially distanced, and he opened his mouth behind his facemask and taught them saying:

Blessed are the Health Care staff who wear PPE, for they shall protect us from harm.

Blessed at those who wear facemasks, for their love will not be hidden away.

Blessed are the ones who deliver groceries to those who are shielding, for they are bringing hope to our doors.

Blessed are the local folk who organise Resilience Groups, for they shall serve those in most need and will be happy with a “thank you”.

Blessed are the teachers in our schools who secure a future for our children, for they shall be satisfied.

Blessed are those who are bereaved by Covid-19, for the world will stand with them in their sorrows.

Blessed are the scientists and boffins, who benefit the whole of our society, for their worth will be recognised for once.

Blessed are our shop-assistants who provide for our bodies’ needs, for they will be worth more than the minimum wage.

Blessed are the virologists, who explain things in ways we can understand, for they shall be called the wise people.

Blessed are those who listen, and who use Zoom and FaceTime, Skype and WhatsApp to keep in touch with folk, for their value will be everlasting.

Blessed are those who worry about Christmas arrangements, for the meaning of Christmas will still get through.

And blessed are you when you’ve had bad days and fear for the future. Keep your spirits up. Hold on to your hopes and dreams. A new day is dawning. A light will shine. A bright future will be yours.

### **A prayer for today**

*Living God, as I move from “hence to there”, from what was to what might be ... bless me in my decision-making; bless me in my sharing; bless me in my not-knowing; bless me in my waiting; bless me with blessings beyond my imagining. Amen*

*An original reflection by @ Tom Gordon Also available at <https://swallowsnestnet.wordpress.com>*