

Tuesday Reflection 13th April 2021

What next?

Yesterday (12th April) saw the first major relaxation of the Covid lockdown restrictions in England. If we are to believe the media coverage (e.g. on TV news), what this seemed to mean to many was the freedom to drink beer and go shopping - to buy “stuff” as one young woman put it.

One could perhaps be forgiven for thinking that for many it was the chance to pick up life where it had been left off. Obviously only time will tell what the longer-term after-effects of the pandemic and resultant lockdown will be, and whether attitudes and behaviours will have radically changed - whether competition or co-operation will triumph, whether altruism will prove stronger than selfishness.

As Christians, we need to seriously ask ourselves what will change for us, and in this respect, the First Reading at today’s Mass (*Acts 4:32-37*) provides strong guidelines:

The whole group of believers was united, heart and soul; no one claimed for his own use anything that he had, as everything they owned was held in common.

The apostles continued to testify to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus with great power, and they were all given great respect.

None of their members was ever in want, as all those who owned land or houses would sell them, and bring the money from them, to present it to the apostles; it was then distributed to any members who might be in need.

We need to ask ourselves to what extent our attitudes and behaviours will change, will we *testify to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus with great(er) power* and will we be more generous in our sharing?

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