

Tuesday Reflection 13.10.20

Autumn

“Season of mists and mellow fruitfulness”

For us in the Northern Hemisphere, October is the month of harvest; we gratefully gather in the surplus which Nature in her abundance has supplied - but this also involves obligations on our part, to ensure that Nature's bounty is distributed fairly; for this reason CAFOD holds an annual Harvest Fast Day, when we are asked to do without so that others may survive.

Fortunately, there is enough food in the world to satisfy everyone's needs - but not enough to satisfy anyone's greed, and it is greed - the desire for more and more, cost what it may - which prevents the Earth's resources (i.e. God's gifts) being shared fairly. Here we are not only talking about individual greed, but about a human culture which in the West is particular is based on greed.

And our greed is not only pursued at the expense of our fellow humans today; we are also squandering the resources which other creatures need, and we are depriving future generations of their vital resources.

There is an urgent need for us - individually and collectively - to be more fully aware of the true costs of our consumption in terms of climate degradation, species extinction and the welfare of future generations (and not only of humans) on our planet.

Michael Townson

It is not too late to contribute to the CAFOD Harvest Fast Day Appeal. Details are in the Parish bulletin and on the CAFOD website - cafod.org.uk