

# KIT @ KIPPAX

Staying Connected while Physically Distant

Wednesday 24 June 2020

Today's Gospel Luke 1: 57-66, 80

## Birth of St John the Baptist

Elizabeth was married to a priest called Zacharia and they had grown old together serving God. They must have been happy people, for the servants of God are always happy, but they had one grief; they had no child. They had prayed long and earnestly to God to give them one, but the years had passed and they had grown old and still there was no child. So then after the foolish fashion of men and women they had imagined that God had not heard them. They had learned a good deal in a long life but not yet that **God never fails to answer prayer.**

But he answers it in the way and at the moment that is best for everybody, and the one who does not know all about everybody, and cannot see the wonderful pattern that God is weaving with the lives of us all, gets discouraged if the way is not to his liking and the moment delayed. Elizabeth's baby had to be delayed because God had chosen her child to do a particular piece of work for him at a special time.

*God so Loved the World*, by Elizabeth Goudge

**A BUTTERFLY DOES NOT BECOME  
A BEAUTIFUL BUTTERFLY WITHOUT  
ISOLATION"**



## Listen for the Gentle Breeze

Sometimes in these disturbing days I feel anxious. I was listening to Fr. Michael Mullins' homily last Saturday. I hope he won't mind me quoting him. He said, "we worry, we feel anxious, we have disturbing thoughts. We worry about sanity, corona virus, can my sin be forgiven? Worry is negative, debilitating, it takes hearts and minds away from life, from the full life promised by Jesus. Jesus says no one can be a slave of God and money. Jesus taught us to pray".

This from Archbishop Christopher. In 1958 on the eve of the Papal Election Pope St John XXIII was restless not sleeping, anxious. He heard, **'who rules, you, or the Holy Spirit?'** Go to sleep with an empty bag, the Holy Spirit fills it with His strength. Four times Jesus told His disciples not to worry.

Rest for our souls - rest of Jesus, God with us [Matt. 11:29]. Elijah heard God's word in the gentle breeze [1 Kings 19:12]. This is a mixed bag but on listening quietly I settled down to pray, to listen for the **'gentle breeze'** and to thank all these caring priests [ours included] who help us on our way.

Ann Reynolds