

ST. ANDREWS WITH ST. ALBANS MOTTINGHAM, 6<sup>TH</sup> SUN. OF EASTER

*LOVING GOD THROUGH HUMANITY*: JOHN 14:15-21 17/05/20

Jesus having this discourse with his disciples, shows us the benefit of loving God. In loving God we are assured of an advocate, the holy spirit. We cannot underscore the work of an advocate in representing a client before a court of law.

We do not keep God's commands, for God to love us. Rather we keep God's commands, because we LOVE him. Que. *What motivates you to love GOD?* The scenario that comes in my mind is that of a wedding ceremony.

At a wedding ceremony the Bride and Groom exchange vows and promise their love for each other. Despite their love, they both could be anxious, worried or even apprehensive for the future. On the other hand their parents and families, despite their love for them, could be anxious. Friends present, despite their love, could be filled with positive envy. The service providers despite their love, could be stressed to meet their obligations.

Brothers and sisters our LOVE for humanity dictates our actions to the world. In the current Covid-19 pandemic, in last few weeks we have been out cheering and clapping for our front-line essential workers. Others have been out providing meals, shopping for others, calling and checking out family, friends and neighbours. Above all, others have been indoors praying earnestly that God may intervene in all of these situations.

The bottom line is this, behind the staggering illness and death statistics, is someone's Granddad or Mum. Behind the statistics is someone's husband or wife. Behind the statistics is someone's Brother or Sister. Behind the statistics is someone's Son or Daughter. Behind the statistics is someone's Uncle or Aunt. Behind the statistics is someone's friend.

In loving GOD, we are prompted to love others and our love is shown in our actions. Think how this world would be if we all loved and cared a bit more? I pray that the holy spirit, our helper, guides us all in this direction, especially at this difficult time. I wish you God's richest blessing as you radiate the love of Christ to the world, now and evermore. AMEN.

*Revd Tim Ndegwa*