

Thought for the week
31st March 2019
4th Sunday of Lent

Wasted gifts....

Have you ever wasted something you have been given? I know that I have! The book token that we've let run out of date; an invitation to dinner that we have never followed up; that scarf or jersey you got for Christmas and didn't like but never got round to finding a better home for... the list could go on and on.

Unlike these unused presents, the gifts that Jesus offers us don't run out of date. The invitation is always there even if we keep turning it down and, unlike the scarf or the jersey, what he gives us is always made to measure and just right!

Even more important: our loving father God, just like the dad in today's Gospel, forgives us for wasting the gifts and talents we have. He will accept us again and again, no matter how many times we have sent back unopened or "life soiled" the amazing invitation he sends us.

So how can we respond, especially when we feel that we haven't fully used what we have been offered?

God gifted manna to the Israelites, to feed them when they were out in the desert. On reaching the Promised Land they didn't need the manna any more; they were able to feed themselves and each other by using and working together in the land God had given them. When we have the gift of faith we need to use it too: it is for sharing so that others can know of and feed at the banquet our loving Father offers to all those who accept his invitation.

A Parishioner