

Thought for the Month

February 2021

The light shines in the darkness and the darkness did not overcome it. *John 1.5*

The beginning of February marks the end of the season of Christmas and the beginning of a short period of what is commonly known in the church as 'ordinary time', a time between seasons, and in this case, the time between the season of Christmas and the beginning of Lent.

During ordinary time we explore a wider variety of themes through the bible readings used during our church services. This feels like a period of refreshment as we prepare for the beginning of Lent, a time of reflective preparation for Easter.

During February we start to be more conscious of the lengthening of daylight hours, as the dark nights start to shrink. The dawn starts to bring with it the sound of bird song and we begin to notice increased activity as birds start to gather materials for nest building, preparing for the laying of eggs and the beginning of new life.

As we continue to live with the uncertainty of the Covid pandemic, we are reminded of the certainty of the seasons and the signs of new life, new hope.

Lent is a time for reflection exploring how we can strive to make the most of the light in our lives, the light of God's love for us, as we understand it through the life of Jesus Christ: God's light and love with us. As we reflect, we should also seek to understand how, as we long for the end of the darkness of the pandemic, we can strive to bring new light and life-enabling love into our lives, our church, our community.

Gwyneth