

A Time for Everything President's Letter November, 2022

Dear Sisters,

What a wonderful day we had at Fairfield. It was so good to meet again 'face to face'. There is nothing better than human contact to revive one's spirits. I do hope that all the sisters that attended felt the same. Perhaps more of you will want to travel by April, when we go back to our annual Away Day. This will be at Hall Green, Birmingham, which is more central, and I hope more accessible to those who found Fairfield just that little bit too far. Please put the date in your diaries, 22nd April, 2023.

My thanks go to the Executive, who organised the day and to Dukinfield and Royton circles, who provided us with cups of tea and coffee throughout the day. Also, I must thank all the people who provided us with varied and interesting workshops and the members at Fairfield who made us feel at home.

Many people are worried as to how they are going to survive the winter. This is due mainly to the increase in fuel bills. Some of these people are on a fixed income. High inflation is always a problem to the poorer of our society who have very little means of increasing their income. It is my hope that we will all survive with God's help and I am praying that we will come out the other end all the stronger.

We know that we often pray and do not think God hears us or sends the answer we want. Just remember he knows best and will always do what he thinks is right for us at that time. As in the poem 'Footprints' – "My precious, precious child, I love you and I would never leave you. During your times of trial and suffering when you see only one set of footprints, it was then that I carried you."

This time last year I wrote about the homeless and how people can be so generous to them. I am again heartened by the fact that many churches have opened their doors to provide a 'warm room' for people who are unable to bear the cost of fuel. They are also providing a warm drink and food. It may seem just a small thing to offer but I am sure that those taking advantage of these facilities are most grateful.

Please remember we do not know a person's personal circumstances. Outward appearances are sometimes very deceptive. You can not judge a book by its cover.

Remember the words, in what is my favourite psalm – Psalm 139 V1-2

"Lord, you have examined me.

You know everything I do; from far away you understand all my thoughts."

And verse 10

"you would be there to lead me, you would be there to help me."

Sr Audrey will be writing the Christmas letter, but you will hear from me again in February. All of you enjoy the rest of 2022 and have a good Christmas. I will just leave you with -

The Lord watch between me and thee when we are absent one from another.

Yours in Christ

Sr Gillian Taylor