

Thought for the Day 7th July - Roslyn Lawer

Over the past few weeks I have listened to my granddaughter, Isla (who is 10 years old) speak about something she did to help others at this time of COVID-19. Isla is in Year 4 at primary school and lives about one kilometre from our house. Isla is a very kind person and cares about others and shows concern when John cuts his finger or I have a sore back. Well, I will tell you about Isla's latest experience.

Isla and her Mum often go walking together around Keiraville and one of their favourite spots is the Botanical Gardens right here at our back door. One day just recently as they walked thru the gardens they stopped by one of the book stands where people can drop off books for young and old to share. It is a free library and you are able to pick up a book and perhaps return a few books back to the book stand next time you visit the gardens. Isla noticed there were no children's books on the shelf in the book stand. Isla's Mum has always encouraged reading in their home and Isla herself is an avid reader. So on Isla's return home from the gardens, Isla decided to go through her children's books with the idea of taking some of her books back to the gardens to place them in the book stand. Isla was willing and very happy to share some of her books with others. So Isla a few days later visited the gardens to drop off the books.

John and myself often visit the gardens each week and so we saw where Isla had left the books. We felt proud of Isla in the giving of her books for others to read. A short time past and Isla and her Mum revisited the gardens and of course they went to check if any books had been taken home by others for their children to read. Isla saw where all the books had gone and she did not know how to feel. Maybe someone could have taken all the books or on the other hand the books could have been taken by many different families. There were no books left behind for someone else to share and Isla felt like leaving a note to say – please think of others and please just take a book or two and perhaps return a book in its place the next time you visit the gardens. Isla was willing to give her books away for others to read but she found other people do not always think or care for others, by taking all the books and not even leaving one book there for some other child to read.

As I think about the above experience, it makes me wonder about life and what is happening in this world today? What do we think about? I have made a few points below -

.....Creation – I think of the Botanic Gardens and beyond and how God created the world. It is a wonderful experience for us all to see God's creation. In the beginning was God and we have been created by God.

.....Giving – It is always good to be able to give to others and not receive, no matter how big or small. By giving we are definitely helping others in need. We think how Jesus gave his life for us on the cross. Jesus is love and he taught us to love one another.

-----Sharing – By sharing we are showing our love through thinking of others before ourselves. We are able to share the Gospel of our Lord and Saviour. We can show his love for us.

-----Knowing – We all know what is right and wrong in this world. Do we all know Jesus as our Saviour and Friend? Jesus knows each and everyone of us by name. He is our Heavenly Father.

This brings me to our Church Statement which reflects on the above - “to know Jesus, grow in Him, share Jesus and show his love”

-----1 Samuel 2:30 – The Lord saith.....them that honour me, I will honour. Amen.