



**Go Deeper, 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2023**

**Matthew 10: 40-42.**

Whoever welcomes you welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me. <sup>41</sup> Whoever welcomes a prophet in the name of a prophet will receive a prophet's reward; and whoever welcomes a righteous person in the name of a righteous person will receive the reward of the righteous; <sup>42</sup> and whoever gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones in the name of a disciple—truly I tell you, none of these will lose their reward.

Thank you for welcoming me into St Wilfrid's! I look forward to getting to know you all.

- When have you felt really welcomed?
- What was that experience like and how did it make you feel?
- Think of a time when you welcomed someone else.
- What was that experience like and how did you feel?

Here is a beautiful old (and probably familiar) Celtic poem.

I saw a stranger yester-e'en,  
I put food in the eating-place,  
Drink in the drinking-place,  
Music in the listening-place,  
And in the blessed name of the Triune,  
He blessed myself and my dear ones,  
My house and my cattle,  
And the lark said in her song:  
Often goes the Christ in the stranger's guise.

What other passages in the Bible can you think of where strangers are welcomed and blessing is given?

In what ways might welcoming others be welcoming Christ?

Who do we not welcome in our lives or in our church? What might prevent us from welcoming others? When do we find it hard to see Christ in another person?

With love from  
Lizzie



Further thoughts:

'Symphony' by Clean Bandit can be found here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Plf9GvWaxQQ>

Whilst it is a secular song, there is something about being welcomed, about joining in and becoming part of something greater that feels godly. What songs or hymns that you find inspire or encourage you?

The image of Rublev's Icon – where we are welcomed into the Trinity can be seen here:

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Trinity\\_\(Andrei\\_Rublev\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Trinity_(Andrei_Rublev))

A sense of calling can feel very much like a sense of being welcomed into something.

What do you feel God might be welcoming you into? How might you explore that with God and with others?