

See the birds of the air!

Having just placed a dish of dried mealworms out, they were soon being downed by a couple of blackbirds. In particular a female with a newly fledged chick in tow. The parent may quite possibly be on her third brood of this amazing summer. All with the support of a male, of course, as blackbirds make particularly good parents. Anyway, here was such a parent, being kept really busy trying to grab much needed nourishment, for herself, whilst appeasing her most persistent and insistent offspring.

A peaceful moment for me in the middle of an otherwise hectic day. Having just sat down to write this reflection I couldn't help but feel the spirit nudging me a little. What trust the young one places in the parent. What dedication the parent exhibits towards her charge. Couldn't help thinking of some of the words of Jesus when he said:

Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground unnoticed by your Father in Heaven. (Matthew 10. 29-31)

how often I have longed to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, and you were not willing" (Matthew 23:37)

God calls us all to rely on him for our inner needs just as our outer needs are provided for. And that level of trust can only come from a place of knowing God's great love. Just as our young blackbird knew how 'loved' they were and as such their trust was not misplaced.

My prayer for this week is that we would not fail to see the small things which are right under our noses, and which remind us of the love and care of the living God. Be that directly or which set our thoughts a wandering in those quiet moments. I can only play a small part in that by reminding you of the truth behind all things – God loves you!

