

Monday 11th May 2020

Jesus' Mother and Brothers

Mathew 12: v46 -50

Jesus was still talking to the people when his mother and brothers arrived. They stood outside, asking to speak with him. So one of the people there said to him, 'Look, your mother and brothers are standing outside, and they want to speak with you.'

Jesus answered, 'Who is my mother? Who are my brothers?' Then he pointed to his disciples and said, 'Look! Here are my mother and brothers! Whoever does what my Father in heaven wants him to do is my brother, my sister and my mother.'

Family and extended family form a community. Each person in that community cares about and loves the others in it. There are other 'families' in our lives. For example, those with whom we went to school or college and with whom contact has been maintained, other friends who have been part of life's journey, work colleagues, members of activity and hobby groups as well as those in our churches. No matter what is happening in our lives – good or bad, the folk in these micro-communities are there for us as we are there for them.

Jesus showed unconditional love to his disciples and followers. We, too, should give unconditional love to those in our 'families', particularly during these difficult times when some may need support. An email, a phone call, a note or a card may make a difference if we cannot be with them. Such a small act shows a lot of care and love. We should also give unconditional love to the wider community: a community of many 'families' who have shown amazing levels of positive and encouraging qualities during the current crisis. Most of all, we should give our unconditional love to God. In giving that love to God we shall never be alone and we shall be part of His family.

Take time to be with God and to pray for all 'families' - the ones close to our hearts, the ones in our locality, country and the wider world.