

PASTOR'S PATCH



At home it is often possible to tell what day it is just by listening.

When you hear the constant buzz of strimmers over the wall in the graveyard, you know it's a Tuesday in summer.

When you see the clatter of bins being put out on the roadside, you know it is Wednesday evening, and tomorrow is Bin Day.

When you hear the bells of St Mary's ringing (sometimes in a slightly chaotic way!) then you know it is Thursday evening, bellringing practice.

And in many ways we may find that life has pattern, a reassuring predictability. Being September we know the tourists will begin to dwindle and the schools will commence again. In December we know we will celebrate Christmas, and in June the shops start selling Christmas items!

*There's a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens:
a time to be born and a time to die, a time to plant and a time to uproot,
a time to kill and a time to heal, a time to tear down and a time to build,
a time to weep and a time to laugh, a time to mourn and a time to dance,
a time to scatter stones and a time to gather them,
a time to embrace and a time to refrain from embracing,
a time to search and a time to give up, a time to keep and a time to throw away,
a time to tear and a time to mend, a time to be silent and a time to speak,
a time to love and a time to hate, a time for war and a time for peace
(Ecclesiastes chapter 3 verses 1-8)*

CHALLENGE

*Take some time to reflect on this well-loved passage.
What season do you find yourself in? Seasons are not wrong, just part of life.
Probably your friend or relative is in a different season, so what does the
Lord want you to do to help encourage them and remind them (in the harder times)
that it won't last forever.*

Darrell