

## A Reflection

### The CORONAVIRUS AND THE NATURAL WORLD

'The sun is up,  
the grass is ris,  
I wonder where the peoples is?'

This adaptation of an old poem highlights for me the unexpected turn around that has taken place in our world. The dominance of human activity is lifted in such a way as to leave the wild-life and fauna of the natural world free and unfettered. I can almost hear the birds singing the above ditty at the dawn chorus!

We are frequently being told to protect our planet, to respect the creatures that share it with us as 'our common home'.

Polution of the atmosphere and its consequences for global warming, with a disregard very often for the care of animal and plant life, seemed to be rushing us headlong into disaster. Among the lessons to be learnt from the terrible Covid-19 pandemic that has hit the world is our obligation to put into place more measures to protect our planet, and to nurture a more caring attitude to all its inhabitants.

This must mean care for vulnerable people, the poor, the elderly and the health and care workers in our communities. Yet at the same time we must be far more respectful towards our fellow creatures 'the birds of the air and the fish of the sea' to which, at the moment, God appears to be giving an unprecedented respite from human interference and exploitation.

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