Tuesday 24th March

Matthew 5: 14 - 16

‘You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. 15Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. 16In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.

On Sunday evening, many of us lit a candle at 7 pm to say that we were joining with others around the nation to pray against the coronavirus epidemic. It was lovely to see people’s facebook pictures of their candle, and reports of seeing others in their street. A candle is a great symbol of the shining light in the darkness. On one of the ‘What’s App’ groups that I am enlisted in someone put up a little cartoon with a sad little cat holding a candle which said, ‘Offer whatever light you can’. Well, the light that we can offer is the Light of the World! Jesus himself! That is the light which shines in the darkness and cannot be overcome! What an awesome thought – that is no mean light! At the moment we are having to be really creative about how we do that, but don’t underestimate the power of prayer. Also we are learning to communicate more using the phone and technology that has become such a blessing. How might you shed the light of Christ a bit further afield by being in touch with acquaintances, or those that you haven’t spoken to for a while?

*Lord, we praise you that you are the light that shines in the darkness, and that the darkness cannot extinguish it! Thank you that you have won the victory! Jesus, light of the World, shine in us today we pray. Help us to think of ways to shed that light abroad in our conversations. We ask you to pour out your light, hope and comfort today on all those who are in pain because of isolation and loneliness. Draw close to them with your love. May they cry out to you and find that you are there. Help us to respond to your promptings to express our love to others. Amen*

