

Faith Comment published in the Petersfield Post

29 April 2009: Tony Berry, St Mary Magdalen, Sheet

Looking closer for the detail

Spring is here and flowers are bursting into bloom everywhere.

There is no doubt about the beauty of the flowers we see and some time ago I discovered how much more of this I could see if I looked at them more closely than usual. By using a magnifying glass many unexpected beauties became visible.

I could see how each part was perfectly designed to make the flower perfect for its role in the scheme of things.

"It's all very well to go on like this," you may say, "but the world is a harsh and unfair place, people losing their jobs and homes being repossessed."

You may wonder where God is in all this. One day the disciples of Jesus realised they were in a similar sort of position.

They had just been considering the fate of someone who had made personal aggrandisement his main aim and object in life.

You could say the disciples were having a crisis in their faith. Jesus was aware of this and told them to look at the wild flowers they saw every day: "Solomon in all his splendour was not dressed like one of these. If that is how God clothes the grass of the field, how much more will he clothe you." (Matthew chapter 6: 29-30)