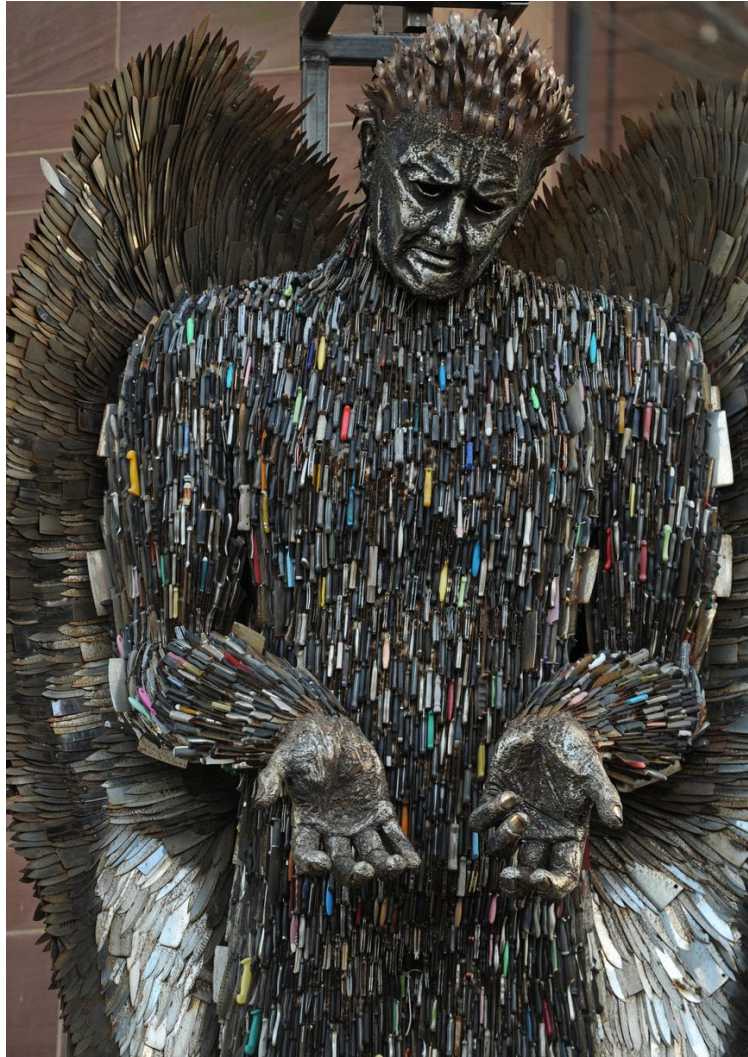


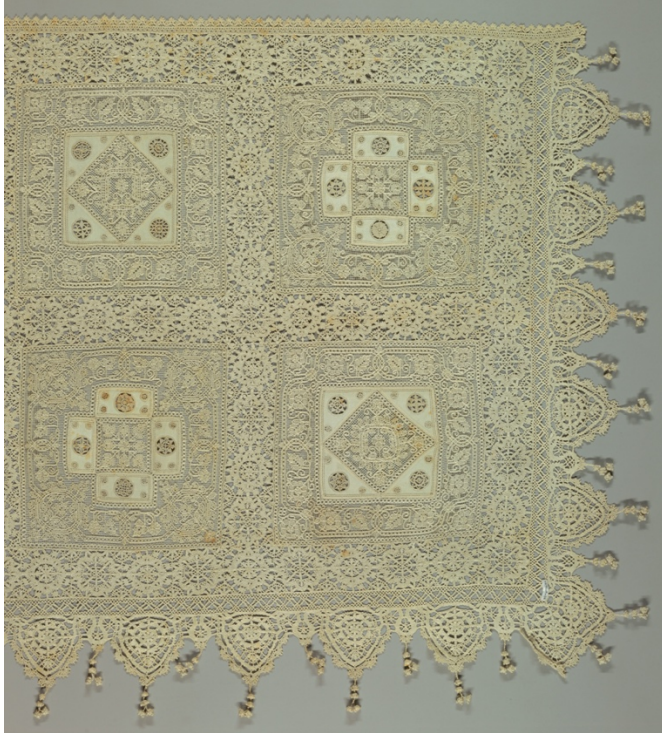
Friday 26th February 2021 – Creative Space



Matthew 5:20-26

Jesus said ²⁰ For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.

²¹ 'You have heard that it was said to those of ancient times, "You shall not murder"; and "whoever murders shall be liable to judgement." ²² But I say to you that if you are angry with a brother or sister, you will be liable to judgement; and if you insult a brother or sister, you will be liable to the council; and if you say, "You fool", you will be liable to the hell of fire. ²³ So when you are offering your gift at the altar, if you remember that your brother or sister has something against you, ²⁴ leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother or sister, and then come and offer your gift. ²⁵ Come to terms quickly with your accuser while you are on the way to court with him, or your accuser may hand you over to the judge, and the judge to the guard, and you will be thrown into prison. ²⁶ Truly I tell you, you will never get out until you have paid the last penny.



Christ has no body now but yours.
No hands, no feet on earth but
yours. Yours are the eyes through
which he looks compassion on this
world. Yours are the feet with which
he walks to do good. Yours are the
hands through which he blesses all
the world. Yours are the hands,
yours are the feet, yours are the
eyes, you are his body.
Christ has no body now on earth but
yours.

Teresa of Avila

Our hands, hearts and minds can create beautiful things that remind us of the beauty of God's kingdom and creation— beautiful images, music, art of all kinds but can also be a source of hurt, harm and not further God's Kingdom on earth as it is in heaven.

The Peacebuilding through Arts movement uses art to foster reconciliation, whether through art (turning surrendered knives into sculptures of angels) or bringing people together to create together. Art can be used for peacebuilding and reconciliation but also to help our understanding of God's story of love for humanity, whether through arts inspired by faith or in the Passion and Mystery Plays.

What are the ways which who use creativity to deepen your faith? Have you ever tried drawing prayers or creating prayer shawls or composing music or writing poetry to express your faith? Could you try one new creative way as part of your spiritual practices this Lent?

To watch:

You may wish to find versions of the Manchester Passion (2006) or Port Talbot Passion (2011) on YouTube for modern takes on the Passion Play. The National Theatres Mysteries are based on the medieval plays (Channel 4 filmed them in the Cottesloe Theatre in 1985).

Images: Knife Angel at Liverpool Cathedral photo by Liverpool Echo, Late 19th century lace altar cloth, Cooper Hewitt, Smithsonian Design Museum