

OUR NATURAL ALLIES!

It's perhaps not widely known that the great Old Testament character *Job* was probably a Gentile as he came from Syria. It is a fair comment to make that *Job* is a model of those good people in life who are naturally moved by a spirit beyond themselves to help others.

There are many people beyond any church or religious organisation who are dedicated to find ways to help relieve the sufferings of others. For example they include the people who work in organisations such as the *Red Cross, Amnesty International* and *Doctors without Borders*.

It is a fair comment to make that people in these organisations serve a Christ figure who they can't name and are also moved by a Spirit who they don't identify with. Yet their great work is somehow connected to the ongoing mission of Jesus Christ in overcoming the forces of evil and injustice in the wider world. The author of the book of Hebrews nails this reality in these words; "*Don't forget to entertain strangers thereby you entertain angels you're not aware of.*"

For people who openly identify with any religious organisation and contribute to challenging injustice and relieving suffering in the world the people who do the same in a secular organizations could perhaps best be described as our *natural allies*. Jesus of Nazareth summed up this reality so well in these words; "*For whoever is not against you is for you.*" (Luke Ch.9 verse 50) *Fr Martin R Maunsell*