

# THE PARISHES OF ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST AND ST MARY MAGDALENE

35 Brighton Place, Edinburgh EH15 1LL

Parish Priest: Fr. Jock Dalrymple:

Deacon – Revd Eddie White:

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*Pastoral Team: Alice Codling, Jennifer Morris, and Chris Vinestock*

*Shared Parish House: 3 Sandford Gardens, EH15 1LP*

*Administrator: Enrico Fertini*

*(Office Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday: 10am to 3pm & Friday 11am-4pm)*

*Web address: [www.stjohnsportobello.co.uk](http://www.stjohnsportobello.co.uk)*

*Web address: [www.stmarymagdalenes.co.uk](http://www.stmarymagdalenes.co.uk)*

*Joint Facebook page: <http://www.facebook.com/StJohnsandStMaryMagdalenes>*

*Joint e-mail address for our sister parishes: [stjohnsandstmarymagdalenes@gmail.com](mailto:stjohnsandstmarymagdalenes@gmail.com)*

## WELCOME!

*If you are visiting, are new to the area, or just live here, you are most welcome in our sister parishes.*

*If you are new to the parish or area, please make yourself known to Fr Jock by email or on the phone and ask for details of how to register on the parishes' roll.*



## Twenty-third Sunday of the Year 5 September 2021

*Isaiah 35:4-7;*

*Mark 7:31-37;*

*James 2:1-5*

*“Ephphatha’, that is, ‘Be opened.’ And his ears were opened [...] ‘He has done all things well,’ they said. ‘He makes the deaf hear and the dumb speak.’*

**Today we have the monthly collection for the Tower Fund at St John’s**

**A warm welcome, as always, to Fr Jim Smith, and our gratitude too, as he celebrates all our Masses this weekend – and continues to cover for the holidaying Fr Jock**

## ***THERE IS NO LONGER ANY NEED TO BOOK FOR ANY MASS IN OUR PARISHES***

In our efforts to encourage more people to return to attending Mass, we have suspended the necessity to book in advance. So ... **prior booking will not be required** – although a seat can still be booked if preferred – and, if desired, in a ‘two-metre space’. ...

NB In keeping with Health and Safety regulations, we are still required to collect names and telephone numbers for Track and Trace. To help us with Test & Protect, the check-in Scotland app can be scanned at the door with your mobile phone camera. Extra helpers are available to assist and explain the use of this app, or you can simply have your name recorded on the paper forms

Because of the continuing nature of the pandemic, we still need to wear a mask and to use hand sanitisers and to sanitise seating... **(Grateful thanks to our ever-faithful sanitisers.)**

### **IF YOU STILL WISH TO BOOK A PLACE AT MASS**

**If you still wish to BOOK**, please contact the Parish House by phone (0131 669 5618 – a special number) or by email ([stjohnsandstmarymagdalenes@gmail.com](mailto:stjohnsandstmarymagdalenes@gmail.com)) on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 10am to 1pm

**NB Please specify if you would prefer a place with two metre distancing....**

*THE SEASON OF CREATION – A NEW ‘SEASON’ INITIATED A FEW YEARS AGO BY POPE FRANCIS – BEGAN LAST WEDNESDAY 1 SEPTEMBER AND WILL CONTINUE TILL 4 OCTOBER - THE FEAST OF ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI*

*...and we have just received an invitation from our fellow cluster parish of St Ninian’s:*

Dear Cluster parishes,

Greetings to you for the Season of Creation.

Please accept our invitation to join us this month on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> at St Ninian’s Marionville for a Season of Creation meditation in our garden grounds.

For practical purposes (covid etc), we would be grateful if one of your parishioners would be the contact for your church and would let us know how many of you might be attending and would keep your own record of those people. [*Enrico, our administrator will kindly be the contact for St John’s and St Mary Magdalene’s*]

This is an outdoor event. We will have a couple of seats available at each meditation point for anyone who finds standing for any length of time difficult. Please let us know if any wheelchair user might be coming.

With best wishes

Cath Norman: [catherinenorman21@btinternet.com](mailto:catherinenorman21@btinternet.com) 0131 669 1498

## **A Request from the Justice and Peace Group**

**Jim Roarty writes:** ‘**DRIVERS WANTED.** Several lunchtimes during the week, the Bethany Care Van distributes sandwiches to people in need on the street. These sandwiches are provided by Pret a Manger - basically what they have left over at the close of business. From time to time, Bethany sends out requests for people to uplift the sandwiches from the shops at closing time and take them to their depot in Jane St, Leith for the Care Van next day. If you are interested in helping with this, please let Jim Roarty know ([jimroarty4@gmail.com](mailto:jimroarty4@gmail.com) - tel 07719952472). This would be an occasional commitment and obviously dependent on availability.’

## **Benediction this Thursday**

**Deacon Eddie writes:** ‘You are very warmly invited to join us at 7pm this Thursday for half an hour of sitting in front of the Blessed Sacrament, listening to, or joining in, with some music, all followed by a Benediction blessing.’

Benediction is usually held on the first Thursday of each month but last week Jury Duty seemed to be calling for Tanya, my wife. Sadly, this was cancelled as she, and the two boys, tackled their Covid infections. Ben and Fergus were over their symptoms in a matter of hours. I avoided it, probably in part, because I am double vaccinated (although I should add Tanya is too, I was probably just lucky).

A special prayer on Thursday, then, please, for all who are battling the effects of Covid even now, as things open up again and thanks to all those in schools, hospitals, churches, shops and anywhere that serves and supports people throughout the crisis.’

# SAFEGUARDING

**Our parish safeguarding co-ordinators, Peter Gillam and Alison Connelly, write:** ‘Almost all volunteers have completed induction course part one and able to perform their ministry duties. However, a second course, induction course part two, now requires completing by most volunteers. This course is now available online. It lasts about 90 minutes. Volunteers are requested to sign up for this course at the earliest opportunity. Details are as undernoted:

**Trainer: Joanne Aitken - [Joanne.Aitken@staned.org.uk](mailto:Joanne.Aitken@staned.org.uk)  
Wednesday 8 September 2021 at 7.15pm**

Please book directly with Joanne via the email address above. 30 places are available for each session and must be pre booked to obtain the joining details. Please also provide your parish and role within the parish when booking - thanks.

**Trainer: Julie Brechin - [julie.brechin@staned.org.uk](mailto:julie.brechin@staned.org.uk)  
Saturday 25 September 2021 at 10am**

Please book directly with Julie via the email address above. 30 places available for this session and must be pre booked to obtain the joining details. Please also provide your parish and role within the parish when booking - thanks.’

## *This Week*

**Saturday 4 September - 6.30pm – St John’s – Mass - livestreamed**

**Sunday 5 September**

9.30am – St John’s – **Mass** – livestreamed

11.00am – Prayer Room – **Mass** – pre-recorded, streamed on YouTube

11.15am – St Mary Magdalene’s – **Mass**

**Monday 6 September**

10.0am – St John’s - **Mass** – livestreamed

7-8.15pm – **Zoom Meeting – Gospel Sharing and Reflection – Open to All**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85666449239?pwd=RUtQW5PTjRWVmlVZGdRU0VyQVpjUT09>

**Tuesday 7 September - 7.00pm – Prayer Room – Mass – livestreamed**

**Wednesday 8 September - 10.00am – St John’s – Requiem Mass for Patricia O’Donnell – livestreamed**

**Thursday 9 September –**

9.15am - 9.45am – St Mary Magdalene’s – **Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament**

10.00am – St Mary Magdalene’s – **Mass** – livestreamed.

7.00pm – St John’s – **Benediction** - livestreamed

**Friday 10 September**

10.00am – St John’s – **Requiem Mass for William Young** – livestreamed

11.00am – St John’s – **Rosary at Our Lady’s Altar**

**Saturday 11 September - 6.30pm – St John’s – Mass - livestreamed**

**Sunday 12 September**

9.30am – St John’s – **Mass** – livestreamed

11.00am – Prayer Room – **Mass** – pre-recorded, streamed on YouTube

11.15am – St Mary Magdalene’s – **Mass**

## *In the Coming Weeks*

**Wednesday 15 September - 10.45am – St Mary Magdalene’s – Requiem Mass for Ella Ayers**

**Thursday 16 September – 9.30am – St John’s – Requiem Mass for Mary Phair**

**Sunday 19 September – after the 9.30am Mass – St John’s - Tower Tombola Draw**

# From Archbishop Leo's Weekly 'Ad Clerum'

**Courses at Gillis Centre** - Applications are now open for a variety of courses run by St Mary's University at the Gillis Centre Campus in Edinburgh, starting this autumn. Why not improve your knowledge of the Catholic Faith with an MA in Theology? Teachers are invited to register now for MA Education courses as part of their continuing professional development. These are: Catholic School Leadership; Leading Innovation and Change; Pedagogy; Religious Education. Watch testimonies from students on the Archdiocesan YouTube channel ([bit.ly/ArchYouTube](http://bit.ly/ArchYouTube)). All details at [www.stmarys.ac.uk/edinburgh](http://www.stmarys.ac.uk/edinburgh)

**National Pilgrimage - The Bishops' Conference of Scotland** cordially invite you to the shrine of Our Lady of Lourdes at Carfin for the annual national pilgrimage. The event is in honour of St Joseph in this year of dedication to him. It takes place at 3pm this Sunday 5 September (confessions from priests and bishops available from 2pm).

**Event: Shakespeare: A Catholic Perspective** - Explore the Bard's plays in a six-week webinar series titled *Shakespeare: A Catholic Perspective*. The sessions will look at six of his best known works, with insights on human nature from St Thomas Aquinas. Don't worry if you haven't read Shakespeare, you'll be guided along each week! The event is organised by the Archdiocesan Catechetics Commission and it begins on Monday 6 September at 7:30pm. Register at [bit.ly/ShakespeareWebinar](http://bit.ly/ShakespeareWebinar)

**SEASON OF CREATION: Justice & Peace Mass** - The Annual Archdiocesan Justice & Peace Mass takes place at 7:30pm on Monday 6 September at St Columba's, Upper Gray Street, Edinburgh (EH9 1SN). It marks the beginning of the Season of Creation and will be a chance to pray for the success of COP26. Refreshments will served after Mass. Register at [bit.ly/JusticeAndPeaceMass2021](http://bit.ly/JusticeAndPeaceMass2021)

**SEASON OF CREATION: Event - A Call to Action** -During the Season of Creation and in advance of COP26, the Archdiocesan Commission for Caritas, Justice & Peace invite you to a mini-colloquium titled 'The Human Face of the Climate Emergency: A Call to Action' It takes place at 3-5pm on Sunday 12 September on Zoom. For more details and to register, visit: [bit.ly/ACallToAction2021](http://bit.ly/ACallToAction2021)

**Vocations - The monthly Mass for Vocations will be at 6:30pm this Monday 6 September at St David's in Dalkeith.**

**Coffee Saints** - A new café has opened at St Mary's Cathedral in Edinburgh! It's called Coffee Saints and is a partnership between the Cathedral and the Grassmarket Community Project, a charity which supports Edinburgh's most vulnerable citizens. All profits go to the charity. If you're in the city, pop in and support a great new initiative.

Happy Feast of St Giles to one and all! Sincerely in the Lord, +Leo Cushley  
Archbishop of St Andrews & Edinburgh

wearing a mask



Before...  
During...  
After...

After the **end** of Corona.. you need to wear the mask this way for 2 months

To let your ears come **back** to normal position



# NOTICE BOARD

## There is a New Donation Option for the Tower Fund.

**Frances McDevitt writes:** 'We now have an online donation function for those who prefer this as a method to contribute to our Tower fund-raising efforts.

It is now possible to donate to the Tower Fund via Apple Pay, Google Pay as well as with credit / debit cards. Donations of any value can be single or recurring. There is also a Gift Aid option on the donations page for taxpayers, increasing any donation by 25%. Our new online donation function is within the Archdiocesan 'MyGivingHub' arrangements, with payments directed to St John's Tower Project.

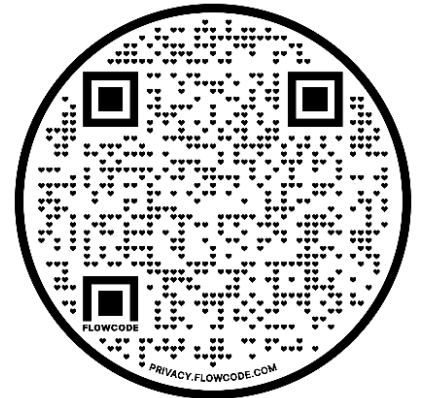
The URL links and its associated QR code are included here for your information. Please share them with family and friends! The URL links will be available on the parish website and Facebook page.

Look out for the QR code around the perimeter of the church building!

Thank you, in anticipation, for your continued generosity.'

<https://tinyurl.com/STJTOWER>

<https://www.stjohnsportobello.co.uk/>



## A truly welcoming church ...

*(This is originally from Coventry Cathedral but has reached us via Perth, Australia via the cousin of one of our on-line parishioners...!)*

**We extend a special welcome** to those who are single, married, divorced, widowed, gay, confused, filthy rich, comfortable, or dirt poor.

**We extend a special welcome** to wailing babies and excited toddlers.

**We welcome you** whether you can sing like Pavarotti or just growl quietly to yourself. You're welcome here if you are 'just browsing', just woken up or just got out of prison. We don't care if you are more Christian than the Archbishop of Canterbury or haven't been to church since Christmas ten years ago.

**We extend a special welcome** to those who are over 60 but not grown up yet, and to teenager who are growing up too fast. We welcome keep-fit mums, football dads, starving artists, tree huggers, latter-sippers, vegetarians, junk-food eaters. We welcome those who are in recovery or still addicted. We welcome you if you are having problems, are down in the dumps or don't like 'organised religion'. (We are not that keen on it either)

**We offer a welcome** to those who think the earth is flat, don't work, can't spell or are here because granny is visiting and wanted to come to church.

**We welcome** those who are inked, pieced, both or neither. We offer a special welcome to those who could use a prayer right now, had religion shoved down their throats as kids or got lost in the city centre and wound up here by mistake. We welcome pilgrims, tourists, seekers, doubters ... and **YOU!**



**Congratulations to Deacon Eddie**, who celebrates the second anniversary of his ordination to the diaconate on Tuesday 7 September

**Ronnie and Kathleen Brown** thank Fr Jock, and all involved, for the beautiful blessing given at last Saturday's Vigil Mass in anticipation of their Golden Wedding on Saturday 4 and would also like to thank everyone for the prayers, good wishes and cards received 4 September

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| <p><i>Please pray for those who have died recently:</i></p> <p><b>Ella Ayers<br/>Glenda Thomson<br/>Ron Cheshire</b></p> <p><i>Please pray for those whose anniversaries occur around this time:</i></p> <p><b>Casimierz Cichocki<br/>James Connelly<br/>Catherine McAllister<br/>John Speedman<br/>Caroline McTighe<br/>Anne McGeachie<br/>Elsbeth Wallace<br/>Fr Jock Dalrymple</b></p> | <p><b>Anniversaries:</b></p> <p><u>St John's</u><br/> <b>Sept.4:</b> Daniel Iannarelli (1992); Peggy Knowles (1991); Betty Hughes (1977);<br/> <b>Sept.5:</b> Catherine McAllister (2015); Muriel Wheatley (2004); Margaret Cunningham (1994); Maria Crolla (1993); Doreen Hogan (1991); Fr.Jock Dalrymple, Dean (1985); Bridget Allen (1978); Margaret Blore (1970);<br/> <b>Sept.6:</b> Catherine Lawler (1984); Geraldine Durkin (1950); Mark Cunningham; Lorna Demarco;<br/> <b>Sept.7:</b> Mary Ann Lynch (1995); Tom Blore (1991); Giovanni Crolla; Dinah Spence;<br/> <b>Sept.8:</b> Josef Kraska (1991); David Docherty (1943)<br/> <b>Sept.9:</b> Lucy Valente (2020); Caroline McTighe (2017); Mary Gilchrist (2005); Thomas Molloy (1996); Jeannette Kempton (1993);<br/> <b>Sept.10:</b> George Malcolm (1997); Kenneth G Bevan (1996); Alexander Baird (1986);</p> <p><u>St Mary Magdalene's</u><br/> <b>Sept.4:</b> Owen Mahon (1994);<br/> <b>Sept.5:</b> John Speedman (2018);<br/> <b>Sept.6:</b> Matthew Lynch (1982);<br/> <b>Sept.8:</b> Anne McGeachie (2018);</p> |
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| <p><b>Please pray for those Parishioners who are sick:</b></p> <p><b>St. John's:</b> Evelyn Oldershaw, Catherine Walker, John Freeman, John Waugh, May Thomson, Josie Tilley, , Sheila and George Service, Margaret Campbell, Ann Dobie, Kim O'Neill, Frank Logan, Sheelagh Dobson, Ernie Moran, Bob Kelly, Jean Bonnar, Mike Iannarelli, Chloe Sutherland, Norah Bruce, Patricia Lawler, Celia Stone, Ruth Viso, Mary Grady, Pauli Walker, Anna Butler, May Flynn, Vincent Knowles, John Cregan, young Saoirse Golden, John Whyte, Frances Cunningham, David Reid, Charlotte McGregor, Betty Dougal, Anne Thomson, Eileen Brown, Mike Noonan, Sarah McManus, Mike Burns, Sr Jennifer Lindsay, Maureen Low, Mary Slight, Rose Thornton, Kitty Dykes, Norman Telfer, Alf MacNamara, Maureen Lawrie, Kathie Gallagher, Erin Corbett, Roz Byers, Marie Angela Crolla and Lorraine Syme.</p> <p><b>St Mary Magdalene's:</b><br/> Mary Cole, Denis Davidson, Chris English, Jacqueline Marinello, Andrew Farmer, Ray Donnelly, Sam Burns, Clive Davis, Isobel Phillips, Margaret Duffy, Maria Scott Jnr, Louise Gorman, Ann Dockrell, John Newall, Michael McPhillips, Bridget Malone, Charles Malcolm, Margaret Ryan, Jacqueline Hannan, Julie Keegan, Rose McKay, Laurie Wallace, Annie Watson, David O'Donnell, Andrew Banks, Jude Ferguson, and Mary and James Muir.</p> | <p><b>Please pray for sick friends and relatives of our Parishioners:</b></p> <p>Drew Shiels, Lewis White, George Lewis, Baby Alfie McDevitt, Rachel Kennedy, Gordon Marron, Una Johnston, Dawn Clarke, William Kinsley, Katie Mc Anenny, John Kellagher, Murdo Tait, Niamh McDougall, Joy Allan, Colin Raasch, Annie Ross, Christopher MacKinnon, Audrey Burgess, Jaroslav Icina, Annabelle Cervantes, Emily Buchanan, Ann Thorp, baby Josh Simpson, Helen McCann, Rhoda Tumboli, Dani Miniette,, Peter Millar, Nan Doig, Leo Stone, Sr May Lewis, Joan Murray Hamilton, Sr Margaret Mary, Billy McPhillips, Jean Nelson, Margaret Anne Marton, Betty Blyth, Lauren Fitzpatrick, Fr Christy Fox, Joe Greenan, Michael Igoe, Robert Shaw, baby Kinsley McMillan, John Walsh, Moira McConville, Margaret and Victoria Roddam, John Williams, Clare Richardson, Karen MacKay, Laura Anderson, Gloria Crolla, Richard Reid, James O'Rourke, Tommy Muir, Janice Todd, Anne Young, James Shepherd, Peter Hanley, Jennifer Kay, Ranier Carpo, Marie Baird, Andrew Franklin, Frank Palmer, Paul Henderson, Ellen Green, Andrew Preston, Jamie Mitchell, Eunice Macdonald, Peter Bromley, Kathleen Cawley, Misia Jack, Hannah Muldoon, Emma Bromet, Edward Caulfield, Igor Rekowski, Diana Hibbert, Joan Brooks, Mary Turnbull, Stuart Falconer, and young Ray Donovan Syme</p> |
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*Thank You!*

**Offertory Collections – 29 August 2021**

| St Mary Magdalene  | St John the Evangelist  |
|--|---|
| <b>£194.20 total</b> including Offertory of £143.20 and Gift Aid of £51.00 | <b>£ 1512.75 total</b> including Offertory of £300.25, Gift Aid of £217.40 and £995.00 Online Donations |



## A REFLECTION ON THE GOSPEL FOR THE 23<sup>rd</sup> SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

### Mark 7: 31-37

The car pulled over to the side of road and its driver managed to win the attention of the farmer working in his field. With all of the haste of a moving glacier, the farmer ambled across to ascertain the reason behind this demand of his time and attention. “Excuse me, can you help? I’m looking for the road to Dublin.” The farmer removed his cap, slowly scratched his head and replied: “Now, sir! If I was trying to get to Dublin, I wouldn’t start from here.” My puerile sense of humour is always tickled by this episode. I was reminded of this tale when looking at this weekend’s Gospel. Jesus is travelling from Tyre to Sidon but chooses to go via the Sea of Galilee, and through the Decapolis region. This is quite a strange journey to undertake. It is the akin to journeying from Manchester to Liverpool via Dover or from New York to Philadelphia via Boston! Why such a journey? And why is Mark drawing our attention with such detail? Surely it would be just as easy for Mark to tell us that Jesus walked for mile after mile, encountering many people on the way! The evangelist is keen to let us know that Jesus message and ministry was aimed at the Gentiles as much as to the people of his own culture and traditions: why else would he tell us that Jesus journey through the Decapolis region? The Decapolis was where Gentiles lived: Gentiles were not a national group like Irish or English or Scottish. A Gentile is anyone who is not part of the Jewish People. The Jewish people of Jesus’ time considered them inferior, and they looked down on them. For Jesus to mix with Gentiles was bad enough, but to deliberately go out of his way to seek their company, and spend time with them was something else. Think of a Cardinal going to spend a few nights on a Travellers’ Camp!

Whilst travelling around this area, Jesus encounters a man who is deaf and who has a speech impediment – probably he suffered from a severe stammer. (Mark uses the word *magilalos*, a word also found in Isaiah, and he uses it to denote a *stammerer*). Mark again gives us a lot of detail. He tells us that Jesus takes the man to one side and looks up to Heaven and ‘sighs’. *Looking up to Heaven* is a technique used by all of the Evangelists and re-enacted by a priest whenever the Eucharist is celebrated. Looking upwards is even practiced by some sportsmen and women. The gesture indicates the depth of Jesus’ relationship with God as Father, as well as a recognition, that all we have is God’s, and it is to God that we return the gift and fruits of our life. Mark goes on to tell us that Jesus sighs. We have all sighed often in our life. In a simple inhalation and exhalation of breath we can convey sympathy and we can share with others our anxiety. Often words are not necessary because a heartfelt sigh can say so much. It speaks to our core, the very centre of our being, Its one of the most expressive tools at our disposal. Jesus sighs and expresses his sympathy with the sufferer. Jesus is the conduit, the go-between His Father and all men and women of the earth, Jews and Gentiles alike. His Father’s generosity, love and forgiveness are recklessly offered to all. A Gentile is chosen on purpose and his choice of a Gentile, a reminder that the love of God is there for everyone.

In an act of intimacy, Jesus touches the man’s ear and rubs his own spittle on the man’s lips. The man is cured, he can hear and speak clearly – but Jesus is anxious that this remains a private moment. Mark tells us that the *more he (Jesus) insisted, the more they published it*. Jesus realizes that the miracle will be misconstrued and twisted, the message will be lost, as the Scribes and Pharisees look for more to use against him. Many victims of the British press know only too well how difficult it is when gestures or words are quoted out of context and misrepresented. The Pharisees felt that Jesus was mixing with the wrong classes, the wrong sort of people. We saw the beginning of the conflict last Sunday with the argument about cleanliness. Jesus is always on his guard, *but the more he insisted, the more they published it*; but the Gentile man will not be silenced.

I suppose the real question for us this weekend – will we be silent or vocal in our witness to Jesus? Jesus did not recognise nationality and we are called to see beyond classes, borders and categories – to see individuals always, and to recognize that they, like me, are made in the image and likeness of God.

# FINDING THE HIDDEN TREASURE by Benignus O'Rourke

## Chapter 34 – The Eye of the Heart



When we were young novices the obligation to keep silence at meals or between certain hours, and the great silence after night prayers until morning recreation, seemed a kind of restriction, a penance. How little we understood the great value of silence!

The aim of keeping silent while we pray is so that our minds become still, and our hearts awakened. It is as if our hearts are usually in a kind of trance. While the mind is processing a million thoughts and words the heart remains numb.

If we could, as it were, put a blindfold around the eyes of the mind while we are communing with God, we would be forced to develop that faculty which can really communicate with him, our heart. And if our heart were awake, alert, we would find ourselves continually drawn towards God.

*(‘Opening the Eye of the Heart’, by C. Bourgeault)*

For this to happen we need to clear the dross, the debris which clogs the heart, the vast number of words, thoughts and fantasies that constantly get between us and God while we are trying to be with him.

Seeing with the heart is a rare gift. Talkers and thinkers greatly outnumber those who can see properly. *‘The mind has a thousand eyes, the heart but one,’* writes the poet Bouillon. In our silent prayer the thousand eyes of the mind are closed, and the eye of the heart is opened.

To see only with the eyes of the mind is to be misled by our prejudices, our fears, our anxieties. To see with the eye of the heart is to see clearly. This is surely what Shakespeare had in mind when he wrote, *‘We worldly men have miserable, mad, mistaking eyes’* (**Titus Andronicus Act V, Scene iv**).

Resting in the Lord is the way by which the weary eye of the heart is cleansed and refreshed. We begin to see from somewhere deep within. We see with the inner eye, the eye of wisdom, the eye of love. We realise what Jesus meant when he said, *‘If your eye is sound, your whole body will be full of light’* (**Matthew 6:22**).

Augustine goes so far as to say: *‘Our whole task in life is to heal the eye of the heart so that God may be seen.’*

What happens when our vision is changed happens without any effort on our part. Once the eye of the heart is opened then we see God.

And we see the beauty and the wonder of the world.

But first of all, we begin to see our true selves, our own beauty and who we really are.