

# 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:

Bingham Avenue, Edinburgh EH15 3HY

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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)*

*If you are visiting, are new to the area, or just live here, you are most welcome in our sister parishes. Please make yourself known to Fr Jock either in person after the Mass, by email or on the phone and ask for details of how to register on the parishes' roll.*

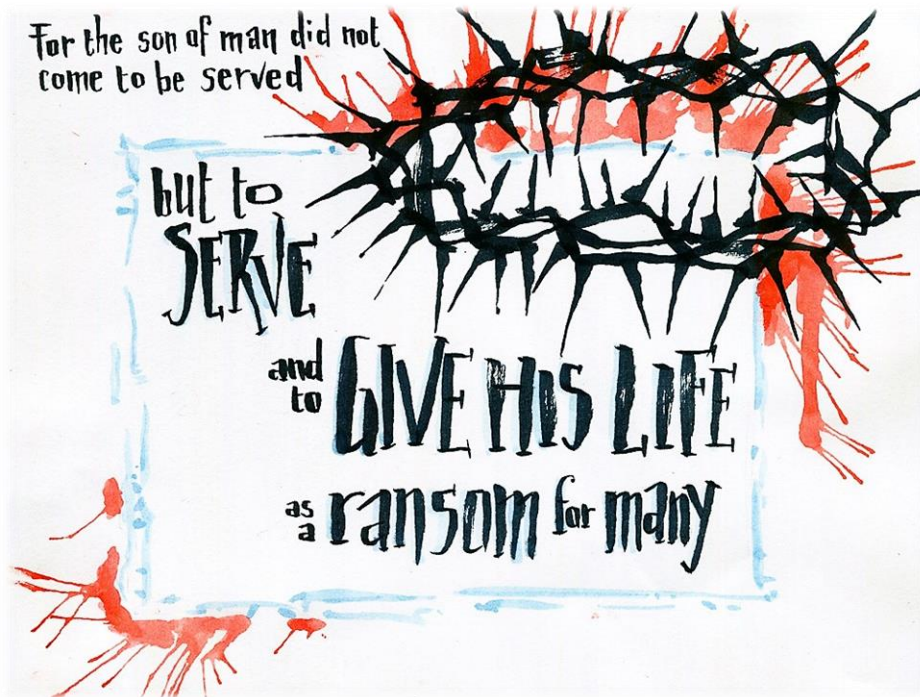


## Twenty-ninth Sunday of the Year 17 October 2021

*Isaiah 53:10-11;*

*Hebrews 4:14-16;*

*Mark 10:35-45;*



*(Drawing by Adrien Converse)*

**Synod Mass - Archbishop Leo will mark the beginning of the 2021-2023 synodal process with the celebration of Mass at 3pm this Sunday, 17 October, at St Mary's Cathedral, Edinburgh. All are welcome to come and pray for the success of the Synod journey. Find out more about the Synod at [www.synod.va](http://www.synod.va).**

**This Friday's 10am Mass at St John's is the Annual St Vincent de Paul Society Mass – All Welcome...**

## *This Week*

**Saturday 16 October** - 6.30pm – St John’s – **Vigil Mass** - livestreamed

**Sunday 17 October**

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

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

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

3.00pm – St Mary’s Cathedral – **Opening Mass of the Synodal Process**

**Monday 18 October**

10.00am – St John’s – **Mass** – livestreamed

4.45pm – Skype – PEP meeting

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

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88264929734?pwd=eTN0K09EU2Q5WGZhb1MwdjhjMzg0QT09>

**Tuesday 19 October** - 7.00pm – St John’s – **Mass** – livestreamed

**Wednesday 20 October**

10.00am – St John’s – **Mass** – livestreamed

**Thursday 21 October**

9.15pm – St Mary Magdalene’s – **Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament**

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

**Friday 22 October**

9.15pm – St John’s – **Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament**

10.00am – St John’s – **Mass** – livestreamed

10.30am (straight after Mass) – St John’s - **Rosary at Our Lady’s Altar**

**Saturday 23 October** - 6.30pm – St John’s – **Vigil Mass** - livestreamed

**Sunday 24 October** - 9.30am – St John’s – **Mass** – livestreamed

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

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

### **....and In the Coming Weeks**

Friday 29 October – 10am – St John’s – **Requiem Mass for Stephen Moffatt**

Wednesday 3 November – 10am -St John’s - **Requiem Mass for Eileen Brown**

### **From Archbishop Leo’s Weekly ‘Ad Clerum’**

**Safeguarding** - The Catholic Church in Scotland is creating a new safeguarding agency. The Scottish Catholic Safeguarding Standards Agency (SCSSA) will operate entirely independently of the Church. Find out more at [www.bcos.org.uk](http://www.bcos.org.uk)

**All Souls’ Day** - Holy Mass for the repose of all the faithful departed who have died in the Archdiocese in the last year, including those buried at Mount Vernon Cemetery, Edinburgh, will take place on All Souls’ Day, Tuesday 2 November, at 10am in the Cemetery Chapel at 49 Mount Vernon Road. The Mass will be celebrated by Archbishop Cushley.

**Annual Archdiocesan SSVP Mass** - Everyone is welcome to attend the annual Mass to mark the excellent charitable work of the Society of St Vincent de Paul in our Archdiocese. It will be celebrated by Archbishop Cushley at St Patrick’s in the Cowgate, Edinburgh, at 11am on Saturday 20 November.

# NOTICE BOARD

## **The Return of Pamoja Fashion Next Saturday in St John's Hall**

The Pamoja Fashion team would like to welcome back all our loyal supporters and friends on Saturday the 23rd of October from 10am to 1pm. Our first sale since March 2020, please wear a face mask; all proceeds go to Tanzania. Please do not leave any donations at the back of the church until further notice.

## **Parishioners' Pilgrimage to Medjugorje**

**Maria Igoe writes:** 'Due to Covid, our twice a year pilgrimages to Medjugorje had come to a halt. But now that EasyJet were flying again to Dubrovnik, a few of us were determined to get there. It was not easy. The stress of the tests and paperwork required was almost too much for us. However, with persistence and prayer, 10 managed to get to Medjugorje, but not all at the same time.

It was great to be there and feel free. There was not much talk of the virus and very few people wore masks. How wonderful to be able to shake hands or hug people!

We met some interesting characters. The priest, who had come to give a talk at the Mary's Meals Pilgrimage was Father Frankie Mulgrew from Salford, Manchester. His father is Jimmy Cricket, the comedian, and he had been a comedian himself. At the age of 18 he suffered badly from depression and felt the healing love of God in the sacrament of Penance. This led to his calling to become a priest. He looks very like his father and is funny and smart.

When out walking one day I saw a lady, whom I recognised but only later did it come to me that she was Colleen Willard. I had seen her testimony of healing after a visit to Medjugorje in 2003. Colleen was in a wheelchair, suffering from an inoperable brain tumour and multiple health problems, which caused her severe pain. As her health deteriorated, she embraced the cross and made the spiritual journey not for healing. However, she was completely healed, and I could not believe how well she looked. She is a very pretty lady. I saw her at Mass the next day with her husband, John and spoke briefly to her. I think she was pleased that I had recognised her and had seen her testimony.

I was delighted to see Darren again. At the age of 24 he had been in a wheelchair for 8 years, as he suffered from Coffin Lowry syndrome. He should not have lived past 21. But in 2016 he was given a rosary bracelet by visionary, Mirjana, as she descended from the Blue Cross after her meeting with Our Lady. That evening he started to walk unaided and 5 years later he is walking better than ever. Everybody loves Darren.

I only had a week in Medjugorje, but it was worth all the stress of testing and form-filling.

We are booked for 2 weeks next May, when hopefully it will be easier to travel, and more people will come with us. We will certainly be praying for this.'

## **Job alert... Personal Assistant For A Blind Young Mum**

A blind mother of 3 young children is looking for a Personal Assistant for some social, domestic, and personal tasks for 15 hours per week (pay rate £9.98 per hour). This includes guidance when doing outings so that the mother can assist her children to safely cross the roads and walk streets, play in the playground, and attend social activities and groups in the mornings. Also, she needs assistance with cooking and giving guidance regarding children being safe in the kitchen, with eyedrop administration, and assistance with correspondence, etc.

Postholder must be child and dog friendly. For more information and full job description, visit:

<https://bit.ly/ANWNED> - To apply, send your CV to [pajobs@lothiancil.org.uk](mailto:pajobs@lothiancil.org.uk) quoting the reference AN WN ED

## **Laudato Si Bookclub - Care For Our Common Home**

'Pope Francis's ecological encyclical, "Laudato Si'," is addressed to everyone of good will. When it was published prior to the Paris Climate Agreement, it was well received by people of all faiths and none. You are warmly invited to join this book club and to reflect - before COP26 comes to Glasgow - on what Pope Francis says about how we are called to care for our common home. A pdf copy of Laudato Si can be sent to anyone requesting one (or can be downloaded [here](#))

**When Does It Meet?** It starts at 7.30pm on Tuesday 19 October and meets every week thereafter for seven one hour zoom sessions. Format Participants are asked to read one chapter prior to each meeting. Each session will cover one of the seven chapters. There will be a PowerPoint presentation followed by breakout room discussions

**How Do You Join?** Contact Eileen at [laudatosibookclub@gmail.com](mailto:laudatosibookclub@gmail.com)



## **Always we begin again:**

A reflection by Church of Scotland Minister, Peter Miller

Recently I spent some time in hospital and I took with me one of my favourite books which I have for many years. The book's title is "**Always we begin Again**" and the author, **John McQuinston**, is an American who worked as an attorney-at-law. John's desire for a more profound connection with the spiritual life led him to study the Benedictines. Written in the 6<sup>th</sup> century, the original Rule of St Benedict emphasized discipline and routine and caused a revolution in monastic life. John has adapted the Rule for daily living in today's world, using language that would not exclude followers of any faith. I feel it is a book which speaks to many who are seekers – exploring what a meaningful spirituality may look like within their lives.

Here is a short Mid-day Meditation from the book: if possible, read it slowly.

**We give thanks for our existence ... we recognise that we rely on forces beyond our understanding ... we trust what this life brings ... we trust ourselves, we trust our friends ... we trust our families ... we trust life ... we trust the universe ... we release our past to the past ... we release our future to the future ... we accept our present ... we give up our cares and fears.**

**We abandon our illusion of control ... we acknowledge our complete dependence on providence ... we relinquish our apprehension ... we rely on that which faith do not always understand.**

**We have faith ... we have courage.**

**Keep us from all fear today ... open our hearts to the gifts of this moment ... and bind us to the great unknown through complete trust.**

**Assist us in forming a loving image of the ultimate mystery ... to have faith, and the courage to give ourselves hope.**

*Many congratulations to Sheila and Geoff Dobson, who celebrate their 40<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary today, Sunday 17 October*

<p><i>Please pray for those who have died recently:</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Stephen Moffatt Eileen Brown Patricia Coleman Dr Margaret Rose Bryson John Leydon Nairn Wallace</b></p> <p><i>Please pray for those whose anniversaries occur around this time:</i></p> <p><b>Irene Eardley - Michael Richards Frances Smith - Fr Jimmy Henry</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Anniversaries:</i></p> <p><b><u>St John's</u></b>  <b>Oct.16:</b> Catherine Jeffrey (1986); Elizabeth Burns;  <b>Oct.17:</b> Michael Connelly (2018); Cathie Bloomfield (2008); Mina Hanlon (1987);  <b>Oct.18:</b> Michael Richards (2017); Nan McCreddie (1995); Frances Smith (1991); John Young;  <b>Oct.19:</b> Joseph Gracie (2010); Mrs Kelly;  <b>Oct.20:</b> Roseanne Sangster (2006); Gerald A Strong (1998); Hamilton Scott (1995); Isabella Duffy (1990); Mary Breen (1973);  <b>Oct.21:</b> Francis Fusco (2013); John Rae Jun. (2013); Arthur Patterson (2012); Mary T Kimber (2003); John Donnelly (1983); Arthur Scott (1983);  <b>Oct.22:</b> James Scott (1991); John Walsh (1991); John O'Brien (1987); Jim McMartin (1941); Francis J Sweeney;  <b><u>St Mary Magdalene's</u></b>  <b>Oct.16:</b> Daniel Sweeney (2004); Fr. Jimmy Henry (1987);  <b>Oct.20:</b> Hamilton Scott (1995);  <b>Oct.21:</b> Alex. McKenzie (1996);</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Please pray for those Parishioners who are sick:</b></p> <p><b><u>St. John's:</u></b> Alan Dougal, Fiona Connel, Catherine Walker, John Freeman, John Waugh, May Thomson, 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, Mike and Patricia Lawler, 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, 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><u>St Mary Magdalene's:</u></b>                  Sam Burns, Mary Cole, Denis Davidson, Chris English, Jacqueline Marinello, Andrew Farmer, Ray Donnelly, 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 style="text-align: center;"><b>Please pray for sick friends and relatives of our Parishioners:</b></p> <p>Tom Sutcliffe, Nan Doig, Ant Ridge, Garrett French, Claire Johnston, Bruno Massaro, Emma Bromet, Mary Murphy, Elizabeth, Baby Percy Keiran McShane, Colin Sandham, Drew Shiels, Lewis White, Baby Alfie McDevitt, Elizabeth and Gordon Marron, Una Johnston, Dawn Clarke, William Kinsley, Katie McAnenny, 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, Leo Stone, Sr May Lewis, Joan Murray Hamilton, Sr Margaret Mary, Jean Nelson, Margaret Anne Marton, Betty Blyth, Lauren Fitzpatrick, Fr Christy Fox, Joe Greenan, Michael Igoe, Robert Shaw, baby Kinsley McMillan, John Walsh, Margaret and Victoria Roddam, John Williams, Clare Richardson, Karen MacKay, Laura Anderson, Gloria Crolla, Richard Reid, James O'Rourke, Tommy Muir, Janice Todd, 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, Edward Caulfield, Igor Rekowski, Diana Hibbert, Joan Brooks, Mary Turnbull, Stuart Falconer, and young Ray Donovan Syme</p>

**Offertory Collections – 10 October 2021**

*Thank You!*

<b>St Mary Magdalene</b>	<b>St John the Evangelist</b>
£365.25 total including Offertory of £124.25 and Gift Aid of £241.00	£ 1260.00 total including Offertory of £285.00, Gift Aid of £185.00 and £790.00 Online Donations

# A REFLECTION ON THIS SUNDAY'S GOSPEL - Mark 10: 35-45

*(The author of this reflection lives in Northumberland)*

I have never been the sort of person who enjoys a mirror – or mirrors. Apparently, I suffer from eisotrophobia. I bet you haven't come across that word too often – or have cause to use it in everyday conversation – but do feel free to use it at your will! Even from an early age I haven't enjoyed looking at myself. As a nineteen-year-old, I didn't realise that I had a rapidly receding hairline until it was pointed out to me by the barber, and now, at the tender age of 68, it's not unusual for me to leave the house to go shopping with either toothpaste around my mouth or traces of shaving foam by my ears – usually my right ear. This is why I avoid the John Lewis Department store in Newcastle. I do like some of the things that John Lewis sells, but I HATE their store. It is FULL of mirrors – every wall, every spare inch of has a mirror. It's almost as if the interior designer they use, never completed any lectures after the one on mirrors. So, as you can probably tell I have more than a little sympathy for the younger generations. Have you noticed how we have an 'expert' for everything these days – they all want to share their insights and wisdom? Many of them have warned us of apocalyptic damage that is being visited on our children. Young people can feel under so much pressure to have bodies to be envied, complexions that are flawless and fashions that are unrivalled and cutting edge. Social Media such as Instagram hold up the images of those deemed 'perfect'. The perfect have become the yardstick against whom all others are measured and compared. Those that fall short of that perfect body, or the perfectly sculpted lips are reminded of the full extent of their failures and inadequacies.

Comparisons are odious and counterproductive. Oscar Wilde once gave some very apt advice: 'Be yourself – for every other self has been taken'. My dignity comes from the essential truth that God has created me as a unique individual yet still in His image and likeness. I have often shared my favourite meditation by Cardinal Newman:

*God has created me to do Him some definite service. He has committed some work to me which He has not committed to another. I have my mission. I may never know it in this life, but I shall be told it in the next. I am a link in a chain, a bond of connection between persons.*

*He has not created me for naught. I shall do good; I shall do His work. I shall be an angel of peace, a preacher of truth in my own place, while not intending it if I do but keep His commandments.*

*Therefore, I will trust Him, whatever I am, I can never be thrown away. If I am in sickness, my sickness may serve Him, in perplexity, my perplexity may serve Him.*

In this weekend's Gospel Jesus is approached by two of the disciples who, perhaps feel themselves to be slightly more important than some of their colleagues. They have done a quick comparison. They consider themselves better than the rest and decide to stake their claim on a favoured seat in God's kingdom. They receive a gentle put down from Jesus and generate indignation from the other ten: *When the other ten heard this, they began to feel indignant.* Jesus warns against the attitude that suggests we can 'LORD It over others. He criticised the perceived wisdom of the day, pointing out that *their great men make their authority felt, THIS IS NOT TO HAPPEN WITH YOU.* He tells them and us that the one who wants to be great does so by being servant of all. Greatness is not found in social status, Greatness is rooted in and found in humility – we do not say, 'I am better than him or her' – all we need to say is 'I have done my best – I couldn't have tried any harder.'

Last weekend's London Marathon saw 80,000 participants. There was only one winner. Were the other 79,999 all losers? All of them had a target time, a personal best to be beaten. They did as much as they could - and they are ALL winners: even the ones who crawled over the line as a result of exhaustion or cramp. All that God asks of us is that at the end of our particular lifespan we can look Him in the eye and say I did my best. He won't compare us to Saint Andrew or Saint David or Saint George or Saint Patrick. He doesn't do comparisons. He does look into our souls, that deep comforting space where we are most comfortable for it is there that He and we are in complete union. So, we do our best. We do our best – and in God's eyes, that is enough.



## OUR ELEMENT

A reflection from the 17<sup>th</sup> century by Dom Augustine Baker OSB (1575-1641)

*The Divinity is the proper vast element wherein the soul shall find life  
and infinite life.*

*But when out of this element, the soul is like a whale  
that has been stranded in a brook:*

*the great creature has not space enough to swim or plunge in its water.*

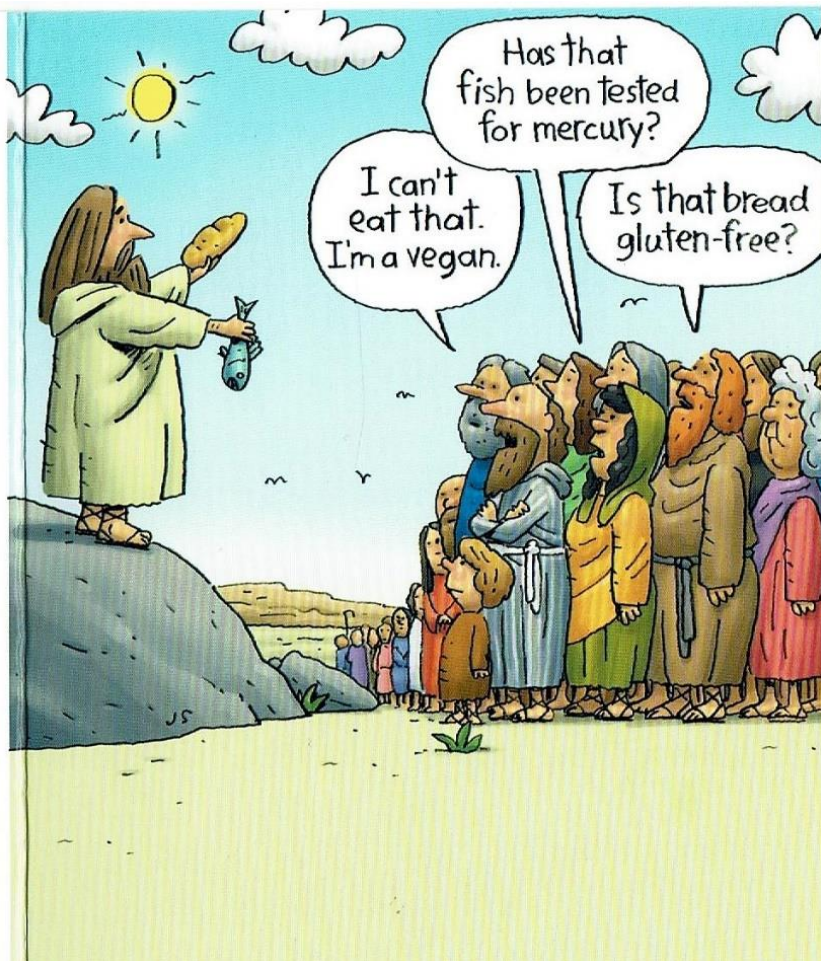
*Hence it ever desires the ocean, which, for its depth and wideness,  
is capable of containing it and millions of others.*

*Here these huge creatures ...  
can swim in all fulness and enjoy security from all danger;  
for they are in their own element.*

*Knowledge is being aware of what you can do.  
Wisdom is knowing when not to do it.*  
(Source unknown)

*Turn your wounds into wisdom.*  
(Oprah Winfrey)

*The feeding of the 5000 ... 2021 version!*



*Too often we underestimate the power of  
a touch, a smile, a kind word, a listening  
ear, an honest compliment, or the  
smallest act of caring, all of which have  
the potential to turn a life around*  
(Leo Buscaglia)

*Always pray to have eyes that see the  
best in people, a heart that forgives the  
worst, a mind that forgets the bad, and a  
soul that never loses faith in God*  
(Source unknown)

*Instead of closing our eyes and bowing  
our heads, sometimes God wants us to  
keep our eyes open for the people in  
need, do something about it, and bow  
our whole lives to Him Instead*  
(Bob Goff)