

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

35 Brighton Place, Edinburgh EH15 1LL

Bingham Avenue, Edinburgh EH15 3HY

Parish Priest: Fr. Jock Dalrymple:

0131 669 5447

Deacon – Revd Eddie White:

07986 015772

*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.*

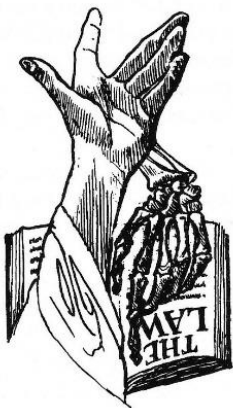
*If you are new to the parish or area, please make yourself known to Fr Jock by email or on the phone and ask for details of how to register on the parishes' roll.*

## Twenty-second Sunday of the Year, 29 August 2021

*Deuteronomy 4:1-2. 6-8;*

*James 1:17-18. 21-22. 27;*

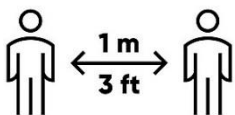
*Mark 7:1-8. 14-15. 21-23*



*“Listen to me, all of you, and understand. Nothing that goes into a person from outside can make them unclean; it is the things that come out of a person that make them unclean. For it is from within, from people’s hearts, that evil intentions emerge [...] All these evil things come from within and make a person unclean.” (Mark 7.21-23)*

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

**PLEASE KEEP  
SAFE DISTANCE**



**TO PREVENT THE SPREAD  
OF COVID-19 (CORONAVIRUS)**

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...**

## 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

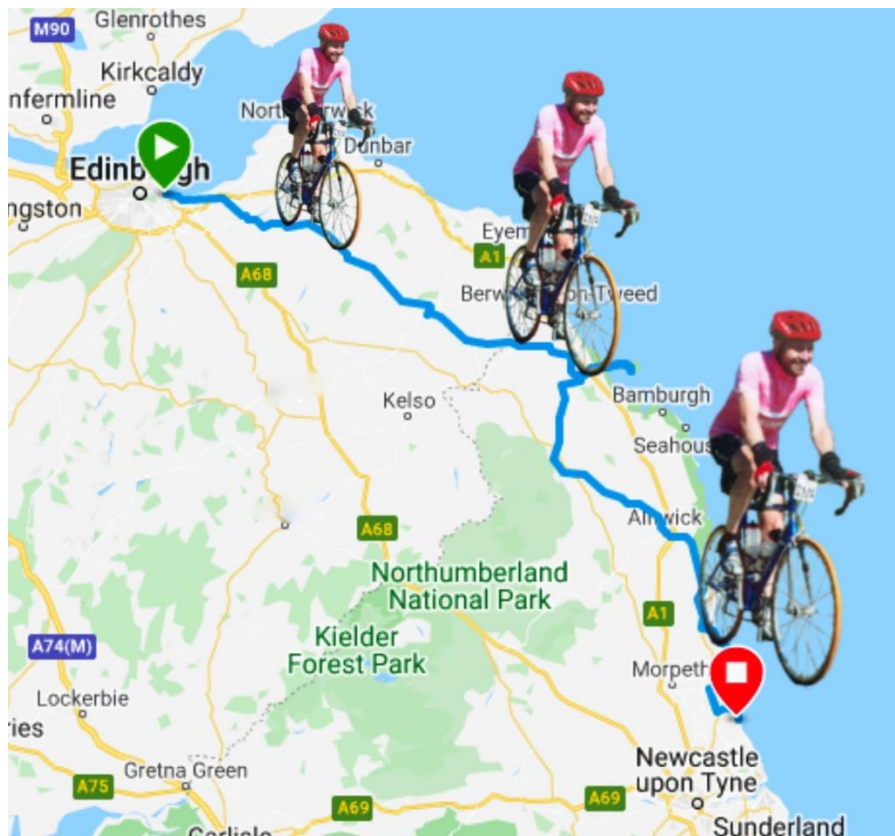
NB Please specify if you would prefer a place with two metre distancing....

**A Warm Welcome to Fr Jim Smith, kindly covering from Monday for a fortnight for Fr Jock who drives off on holiday after this week-end's Masses.** (The latter hopes to be both relaxing in and bicycling around middle England – Bedfordshire, Derbyshire, Oxfordshire and Worcestershire – with his friend, Fr Rags).

**This Thursday is the first anniversary of Mike Knox's Death – and St John's parishioner, Paul Macpherson, is marking it by raising funds for the Sacred Heart Centre in Mweka, Tanzania, with a 215km/134-mile cycle ride**

Paul writes: 'The Sacred Heart Centre in Mweka supports a huge number and wide range of people, and the work done by the Sisters and community living there is important to all of them. As with all of us, the COVID pandemic has had a detrimental effect on day-to-day life in the centre and in particular the funding of the centre, further compounded by the death of Mike Knox who built and funded it.

It costs approximately £800 per month to keep the centre going. To help support the centre and in memory of Mike Knox, I am doing a sponsored cycle on 2 September from St Johns, Portobello, to Blyth via Holy Island and Wooler (215KM) to try and raise enough money to keep the centre going for two or maybe three months £1,600/ £2,400. Please support him by visiting the Go Fund me page at <https://gofund.me/895bd86e> and donating whatever you can. Thank you.



**There will be Benediction not this Thursday but next Thursday...**

**Deacon Eddie writes:** “Benediction will take place next Thursday – 9 September - (rather than on the usual First Thursday, 2 September). This is because it is our daughter Eloise’s first week back at school while my wife Tanya has been called up for Jury Duty - so it is anyone’s guess what the week will be like. Some sort of normality – if such a thing exists in family life – will hopefully be restored the following week...”

## **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)**

**Tuesday 31 August 2021 at 7.15pm**

**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 28 August**

10am – St John’s - **Baptism of Jude Connell-McCabe**

6.30pm – St John’s – **Mass (with Kathleen and Ronnie Brown’s Golden Wedding renewal of vows)** – livestreamed

### **Sunday 29 August**

9.30am – St John’s – **Mass** – livestreamed – **with baptism of Elisse Rose Gul**

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

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

### **Monday 30 August**

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

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

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81014943050?pwd=dnRLZm9YQmF5VUc3aU5ZWINEVVG9VUT09>

**Tuesday 31 August - 7.00pm** – Prayer Room – **Mass** – livestreamed

**Wednesday 1 September - 10.00am** – St John’s – **Mass** – livestreamed

### **Thursday 2 September –**

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

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

### **Friday 3 September**

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

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

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

**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

## NOTICE BOARD

### PORTY ART WALK

**Mike Kinane is showing paintings in his house at 10 Queen's Bay Crescent on Saturday and Sunday 4 and 5 of September** (10am. 'til 6pm. and 11am. 'til 5pm. respectively.) Mike writes: ‘All welcome and I'm happy to make a contribution to The 'Tower Fund' or another organisation of your choosing. Thanking You ...’

### 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 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 on Sunday 5 September.

**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)

**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)

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

**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)

*God, grant to me the serenity  
to accept the things I cannot change,  
courage to change the things I can,  
and wisdom to know the difference.*

R. Niebuhr



# Parish Register

*Many congratulations to Kathleen and Ronnie Brown, who celebrate their Golden Wedding next Saturday 4 September (and renew their vows at this week's Vigil Mass).*

<p><i>Please pray for those who have died recently:</i></p> <p><b>Tommy Banks - Bill Craig - Jim Reilly - John MacKenzie – Teresa McArthur – Dorothy Moore</b></p> <p><i>Please pray for those whose anniversaries occur around this time:</i></p> <p><b>Mike Knox - John Speedman - Luigi Iannone - - Mamie Richards – Alberto Tanzi - Len Buckley - James Connelly – Yvonne Lyon – Iain Docherty</b></p>	<p><b>Anniversaries:</b></p> <p><u>St John's</u>  <b>Aug.28:</b> Mamie Richards (2019); Mary Holligan (2001); Michael Meldrum (1975); James Waldie (1960); Patrick Birnie (1940);  <b>Aug.29:</b> Norrie Lamb (1997); Jean Connelly (1982);  <b>Aug.30:</b> Kathleen O'Donnell (1994); Len Buckley (1992);  <b>Aug.31:</b> James B Waugh (1997); Anne Conway (1973);  <b>Sept.1:</b> Isabella Bowyer (2009); Agnes Finn (1979); Joseph G O'Kane (1964);  <b>Sept.2:</b> Mike Knox (2020); Betty Abercrombie (2016); Sarah Brown (2002); Eileen Bannon (1967);  <b>Sept.3:</b> Alberto Tanzi (2004); Mark J DiPonio (1995); Helen Cullen (1986); Joseph &amp; John Deignan;</p> <p><u>St Mary Magdalene's</u>  <b>Aug.29:</b> Jean Connelly (1982);  <b>Aug.30:</b> Agnes Gibson (2007);  <b>Aug.31:</b> Ann Fraser (2002);  <b>Sept.3:</b> Elvira Pelosi (2001);</p>
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<p style="text-align: center;"><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>  Mary Cole, Denis Davidson, Chris English, Jacqueline Marinello, Andrew Farmer, Ray Donnelly, Sam Burns, Clive Davis, Ella Ayers, 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>George Lewis, Baby Alfie McDevitt, Rachel Kennedy, 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, 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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### Offertory Collections – 22 August 2021

Thank You!

St Mary Magdalene	St John the Evangelist
£296.24 total including Offertory of £141.24 and Gift Aid of £155.00	£ 1370.45 total including Offertory of £248.78, Gift Aid of £126.67 and £995.00 Online Donations
Haiti Earthquake SCIAF Emergency Appeal	
£303.76	£500.00

**Next Sunday will have the monthly collection for the Tower Fund at St John's**

## .....and 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.

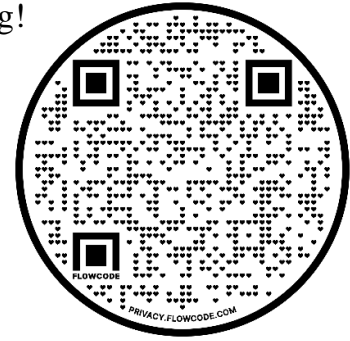
The URL links and its associated QR code are included here for your information. Please share them with family and friends! The URL links will be available on the parish website and Facebook page.

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/>



### **Some words based on various words and hopes within the Psalms.**

*May my joy in You – the source of life - never be at the expense of others and may my neighbour’s well-being be to me as my own. May your presence in me be known not by violence and angry outbursts due to my own, often deep and unexamined insecurities. Give me that ability to be less critical - and much more forgiving. Let me take time to really hear what the other person is trying to say – even if it may be critical. May I even see a blessing in the criticism.*

*Examine my heart and remove the bits and pieces in it that prevent genuine encounters - such as inner fears and the silent determination to put myself first at any cost. Enlighten my understanding and give me each day all that makes for calm discernment- such as even a little more patience and kindness. You know that I am often distracted by many things throughout the day, but help me also to rediscover within me these great gifts that are within every human being such as generosity and the courage to face up to reality however hard. Help me to pause and may be -- even if it hurts! - turn away from a screen for a moment - and see all these things in my heart, such as affection and tears and tender speech as real blessings for myself and others. Let me try as often as possible not to live in a fake way, often masking my true self, and to be able to differentiate between what is good and true and that which is bland, untrue and which may lead me into pathways I have no real wish to go down.*

### **Smiling, a poem**

Smiling is infectious, you catch it like the flu  
When someone smiled at me, I started smiling too  
I passed around the corner and someone saw my grin  
When he smiled I realized I’d passed it into him  
I thought about that smile then realized its worth  
A single smile just like mine could travel round the earth  
So, if you feel a smile begin, don’t leave it undetected  
Let’s start an epidemic quick and get the world infected

# A REFLECTION ON THE GOSPEL FOR THE 22<sup>nd</sup> SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

Mark 7:1-8; 14-15; 32-23

I started to write this reflection on Thursday morning. At that time, the dispute between Pen Farthing and those responsible for the evacuation of refugees from Afghanistan, seemed to be coming to a head. He has spent the last few years of his time in Afghanistan rescuing animals, organizing shelter for them, and ended up employing many staff. He wants to bring the animals and his staff out of Afghanistan and to safety. The Ministry of Defence wants to prioritise refugees and asylum seekers. Both sides of the debate argued their case with conviction and passion. There is a fundamental disagreement, and feelings were and are running high. Opinion is probably as divided as they are. Both efforts are commendable ... but, due process must be followed, otherwise chaos ensues. Even these feelings paled somewhat, as the events of Thursday afternoon unfolded. Devastation and destruction were meted upon a crowd of refugees as they tried to gain safe passage to wherever – anywhere where they could try to build what they thought might to be a better life. They had already crammed a few possessions into a small suitcase, gathered their children around them and were ready to stand waist deep in an open sewer, if it meant they could continue to dream...and hope. There are probably not enough words in the dictionary to describe the events or their feelings of abject dismay. For centuries, Afghanistan has been torn by tribalism and warring factions. Why is it many of us resort so quickly to tribalism and factionalism? It's almost as if people derive some sort of comfort from division and disharmony. Ever since Roman times, powerful people have realised that greater control can be exerted, if the population, at large, is distracted by infighting and distrust. So, in the UK we continue to be divided between those who are eager to be vaccinated against COVID and those who are distrustful of the process. 'Benefit scroungers' are demonized and 'hard-working taxpayers' encouraged to view them as an enemy within. And when it comes to immigration – well, that is a whole different can of worms. Tribalism seems to come naturally to us; we seek out like-minded people and mistrust those of an opposing view.

It was no different in Jesus' time – as this weekend's Gospel passage shows. The Pharisees are very mistrustful of this new 'upstart', Jesus. They decide that he is going to be trouble and they lose no opportunity to sow division. It's almost as if their message has become: 'You cannot trust anything this man says – look at the way he completely ignores our customs and traditions; customs and traditions that have been handed down over centuries.' They don't feel confident enough to confront Jesus in person, so they begin to chip away at his message by focusing on his disciples and their behaviour. Shock! Horror! Probe! Look at his followers, look at their behaviour - they are eating without washing their hands as far as their elbows. For the Pharisees, this is the thin end of the wedge.

Being keen followers of Jesus, the disciples have already adopted a semi-nomadic lifestyle, sleeping and eating wherever they could, accepting hospitality when offered – but more importantly listening to the words that flowed from 'the man of Galilee'. The more they listened and exposed themselves to his mind-set, the more able they were to see beyond the rules and rubrics and focus on the God of all creation; the God who this man Jesus claims is his Father. Jesus has already encouraged them to forget about so much of what they have learned to date, and instead place greater emphasis on living from the heart and seeing things as God does. The path they and He will follow will bring them, inevitably, into conflict with the Pharisees and the scribes, the organized religion of the day. The scribes and Pharisees were strict followers of the Law, they believed that if the Law is followed, then all would be well with the world. Jesus spoke of the importance of conviction and love, bringing physical and emotional healing through a greater openness to the ways of God. Rules and traditions were of secondary importance. Jesus tells us to remember that nothing that goes into us can make us unclean- but there is a real danger that, from within, all manner of evil can ensue. Tradition and Law are important, they help us to feel connected with something that is much bigger than we are, but when they prevent us from seeing the suffering of those in need, then we are failing God, failing Jesus, and failing them.

# FINDING THE HIDDEN TREASURE by Benignus O'Rourke

## Chapter 33 – The Teacher within



(Our Lady of the Angels Monastery, Crozet, Virginia, USA)

St Augustine would tell us that we have all we need for our spiritual journey because we have within us the greatest of all teachers, Christ himself. *'Christ lives in the heart of each one of us, and he is our best teacher,'* he writes. *'I, the preacher, am pouring a torrent of words into your ears. My words are meaningless unless he who dwells within you reveals their sense to you.'*

*'Your true teacher will always be the teacher within. It is he who enables you to understand, in the depths of your being, the truth of what is said to you.'*

In his commentary on John's Gospel, he explains: *'God speaks to us within. He speaks to us in our inner self when we are attentive to him.'*

*Without words he instructs us in silence, drenching our souls with the light of understanding. He stirs in us an eager longing for the beautiful intimacy of his presence within. But it is through our daily practice that we become capable of this intimacy. It is by walking with him that we grow, by going forward that we walk, so that we may reach the goal'* (Tract 54 8.12.44-50).

It is a major step in our spiritual life to discover the teacher within and to want to learn from him alone. This teacher forms us in a way that no other teacher can do.

So, in our time of silence, we remain still and keep ourselves present to him in an attitude of loving receptivity. We remain constantly attentive, knowing that God, who dwells in the depths of our being, is always doing great things.

Out of our resting comes the vision of how our lives might change. Out of our openness comes the willingness to conform to what God's spirit prompts us to do.

Dr E. F. Schumacher, the author of *Small is Beautiful*, was in his forties when he travelled to Burma as an economic adviser to the UN. At the time he was an agnostic, he said, without any spiritual roots, a typical Western intellectual.

While he was there, he was struck by the air of calmness people there carried about with them. He knew that many of them at some stage in their lives spent time in a Buddhist monastery learning to be still. So, he decided to try to learn about the routine of monastic silence. He cancelled his engagements and took himself off for five weeks to a Buddhist monastery. Those five weeks proved a turning point.

At first Dr Schumacher found it physically difficult to sit still. Once he achieved that, he found his emotions stopped running away with him. Next, he found his heart became quiet. Finally, as a result, his mind became clear, and this surprised him. He had always supposed himself to be clear-minded.

He now realised that in the past his mind had been obscured by the ever-shifting clouds of his restless desires.

And it was out of this new clarity of mind that he saw his spiritual path being revealed to him.

He became a Catholic and was regarded as one of the most influential thinkers of the twentieth century.