

Daniel's reflection for Sunday 5th June Treasured and Transformed

This reflection is about what happens when we live our lives in God's presence, aware of the divine essence hiding below the surface of everything human, seeing our relationships, our experiences, our sins, through the eyes and with 'the mind of Christ' . . .

This way of seeing, this gift of recognising is called 'the sacramental imagination'. The veils of our often complicated and messy lives may then part to reveal a real surprise – incarnate beauty within us and all around us. That is God's secret, St Paul writes, 'in which all the jewels of wisdom are hidden' (1 Col 2:3).

Part of that wisdom is the fact that 'You are God's poetry, written not with ink but with the love of the holy spirit, not on tablets of stone but across the pages of your human hearts' (2 Cor 3).

The work and play of faith-imagination is to perceive the deeper meaning of the ordinary, to touch God in the daily realities of our lives, to make the invisible visible. This happens when we try to be really present to what is happening. Simone Weil wrote

'With imagination you don't have to travel far to find God – only notice things. The finite and the infinite live in the same place. It is here alone, at this precarious and vital point, that the holy is laid bare. I live in this world by attention.'

This is the daily grace we long for. This is the transformation for which we were created.

(Treasured and Transformed pp11, 12)