

## Transfiguration 2021

“they saw no one with them but only Jesus”

Each day pick out just five things of real value and celebrate the goodness.

There was an occasion I have written about when I emerged from a motor vehicle which had crashed. The truck had turned on its head. The windscreen smashed, and the cabin slightly pushed in.

I emerged from the wreckage through what had been the driver side window with only a few scratches. I remember feeling a sense of relief, and seeing with a real clarity a vision of what matters.

Before long that perception had gone and I had returned to cluttering my thoughts with mundane anxieties.

I am not suggesting you all go out and find a near death experience to re-direct your thoughts

Rarely does such perception come easily into view.

Most of the time it is the result of discipline, courage, and prayer.

The wonder is actually there in front of you.

Learn to see

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Walking over the Lancashire moorland, in my vision is at first the colours, the contrasts of elevation between farmland and barren land. It is beautiful but there is more. Soon the grassed over relics of bygone ages begin to appear in my consciousness. I realise that a rock face was a small quarry. Where victims of the Irish famine found work, and broke from caves stone, that paid for their daily bread. I realise the paths that in my leisure I follow, these wage slaves trudged along, in boots and clogs and damp woollen clothing.

On the whole they left their harsh existence before they were fifty. After lives of real struggle.

In my waterproofs, and layers, looking forward to my warm house and meal I become aware of how

lucky I am.

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As a child I dreamed of being a farmer. Thankfully I have not found myself out in early spring lambing or cursing the weather. As a teenager I dreamed of being a rock and roll star. Thankfully I have not had to live in hotels, frightened to go out where the public can see me. As I grew older my idealism encouraged me to take on the mantle of St Francis of Assisi. Thankfully the Holy Spirit and chance had a more balanced understanding of what was possible. At times perfection of a kind was what I was after. Thankfully I have never reached such an exulted and isolated place in life.

I have all I need. Indeed you shall die, and so shall I, and all that will be remembered of us is love.

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It is enough

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Each day pick out just five things of real value and celebrate the goodness.

It is the season of Lent

It is the time that our faith encourages us to see beyond our anxieties and pre-conceptions

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