



DARE TO DREAM

Autumn Series

Week Beginning October 31st

30th Sunday of Ordinary Time

Before you begin, read this extract from 'Rule for A New Brother' (Author ANON)

Put aside all ambition,
and no longer concentrate on yourself.
Be constantly converted to your brothers and sisters
and place yourself in God's hands.

Give instead of demanding,
trust others instead of compelling their trust,
serve instead of being served,
bless instead of cursing.
And be sure that when you have done all things well
you will still be an unprofitable servant.

So be attentive to the others,
not in order to dominate or exploit them
but to work for their happiness discreetly and effectively
and to build them up in all the riches of faith and love.

Video - Watch and listen to Canon Richard Dwyer

Prayerfully read this passage from the Gospel of Mark 12:28-34

One of the scribes came near and heard them disputing with one another, and seeing that he answered them well, he asked him, "Which commandment is the first of all?" Jesus answered, "The first is, 'Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God, the Lord is one; you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.' The second is this, 'You shall love your neighbour as yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than these." Then the scribe said to him, "You are right, Teacher; you have truly said that 'he is one, and besides him there is no other'; and 'to love him with all the heart, and with all the understanding, and with all the strength,' and 'to love one's neighbour as oneself,'—this is much more important than all whole burnt offerings and sacrifices." When Jesus saw that he answered wisely, he said to him, "You are not far from the kingdom of God." After that no one dared to ask him any question.

- Take some time to ponder on the words you have just read.
- Notice if there is anything, a word or phrase that stands out for you.

- Read the passage again and then reflect upon all or some of these questions: if you are doing this as a family or a group, make sure everyone is given the opportunity to speak.

Personal Reflections

- What strikes you about this passage?
- What challenges you about this passage and why?
- What is God saying to you as you reflect on these words?

Now thinking about your parish and local community

- What are the things which your parish does which show the love you have for your neighbours?
- If your dreams could come true, how would they include those around you?
- How has this series of reflections enabled you as a parish to grow as a community?

Action

- Go back through all the reflections for the past nine weeks and consider what if anything you would like to be developing for the future.
- Review any actions you have taken to see what progress has been made?

Finish with a prayer asking the Holy Spirit for the grace to respond.

