

Reflection Saturday Week 24 – 2021

In reading the parable of the Sower remember that over 90% of the seed fell on good ground and yielded a rich harvest. Note too that the seed bore fruit through its own power provided the ground allowed it to grow. The power of the natural world is immense if only we would provide the conditions necessary for growth. This why we need to work hard to heal the harm and abuse we have caused creation which is only too ready to respond.

We find the power of nature in Celtic spirituality which was holistic and integrated; life was one and was lived under the guidance and protection of God on whom the people were very dependent. There was a unity of all things in God - humans, the animal kingdom and the physical environment. It was reflective and based in a strong sense of solidarity within the community, the environment and the community of God as Trinity. Hence, it was a life of total interdependence, a way of *'daily life as a living vocation'*. It was also enduring. One writer described the Celts as *'good to the poor, kind to the stranger, and courteous to all. During all the years that I lived and travelled among them, night and day, I never met with incivility, never with rudeness, never with vulgarity, never with aught but courtesy. I never entered a house without the inmates offering me food or apologising for their want of it. I never was asked for charity.'*

This world is not the accomplishment
of a moment of your time, Lord,
that we can see clearly.

*Those rugged cliffs, thrust from the depths of the sea,
filled with the evidence of the past,
were not created in the blinking of an eye.*

The diamond's hardness, did not come suddenly.

*This is the work of an infinite patience,
the creation of something of which its creator could be pleased.*

*And now Lord, this infinite patience,
this creative love is directed towards us,
formed as we are from the very elements
of the world in which we live.*

*Your creative Spirit still at work, tireless, ceaseless,
endlessly creating in our hearts the image of your likeness.*

*The only difference being, the diamond had no choice
in whether it would be transformed into such beauty.*