

## Reflection Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> Week Easter St Bede the Venerable 2022

Ecclesiasticus 39:6-10

Matthew 5:13-16

**St Bede** was born (673) in the north of England, near Wearmouth monastery. He joined that monastery, and spent all his life there or at Jarrow, teaching and writing. He was an outstanding author. He wrote commentaries on Scripture; an ecclesiastical history of the English people, (a unique and irreplaceable resource for early English history); and the first martyrology (collection of saints' lives). He was also the first known writer of English prose, though this has not survived. He died at Jarrow on 25<sup>th</sup> May 735: he taught and worked until the end of his life. He is venerated as the "*light of the Church*" in the Dark Ages, and a forerunner of the 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> century renaissance of the Western Church.

It could easily be thought that the writer of Ecclesiasticus wrote today's passage with Bede in mind. It is no good being blessed with wisdom and understanding, the ability to write and to instruct unless one actually does. Recognising that gifts and talents come from God, as Bede did, has fulfilled the words of the reading: "*His memory will not disappear; generation after generation his name will live.*"

Bede exemplifies the words of Jesus in being a light to the people; a light that leads others to approach God with the desire to offer God their lives and live the Way of Jesus.

Be enlightened by Bede:

- *I was no longer the centre of my life and therefore I could see God in everything.*
- *Unfurl the sails, and let God steer us where He will.*
- *He alone loves the Creator perfectly who manifests a pure love for his neighbour.*
- *This life of man appears for a short space, but of what went before, or what is to follow, we are utterly ignorant.*

- **Teacher:** "*We will only have a half-day of school this morning...*"

**Students:** "*Hooray!!!!*"     **Teacher:** "*Then we'll have the other half this afternoon.*"

- **What Do You Call a Teacher Without Students?**                     *Happy.*
- **What pencil did Shakespeare write with?**                     **2B.**