

## Reflection Friday Week 30 St Simon & St Jude Apostles 2022

**St Simon** is known as Simon the Zealot, but nothing else is known about him. His other name of “Simon Cananaeus” simply adapts another Hebrew word for “zeal” and has nothing to do with the town of Cana.

**St Jude**, also called Thaddaeus, asked the Lord at the Last Supper why he showed himself only to the disciples and not to the world. For centuries he was scarcely venerated because people confused him with Judas Iscariot. He is the patron saint of lost and desperate causes.

One of the faults of the previous government was its failure to consult with others more knowledgeable about the issues addressed. Jesus, on the other hand, always consulted his Father in prayer before making any important decision. He spent 40 days in the desert to better discern his Father’s will and seek his guidance and wisdom. Jesus spent a long time in prayer over the choice of his disciples, two of whom we celebrate today.

### **Pope Benedict XVI**

*“Simon was worlds apart from Matthew, who had been a tax collector and was frowned upon as being entirely impure. This shows that Jesus called His disciples and collaborators, without exception, from the most varied social and religious backgrounds.*

*Jesus was interested in people not social class or labels! This group of His followers, despite their differences, all lived side by side, overcoming imaginable difficulties. What bound them together, was Jesus Himself, in whom they found themselves united with one another.*

*This is a lesson for those inclined to accentuate differences or contrasts, forgetting, that in Jesus Christ, we are given the strength to overcome our continual conflicts.*

*Let us also bear in mind, that the group of the Twelve, is the prefiguration of the Church, where there must be room for all charisms, peoples and races, all human qualities that find their composition and unity in communion with Jesus.”*

**There are three types of people in the world:** Those who can count and those who can’t.

**Did you hear about the chap who invented the knock-knock joke?** He won the “no-bell” prize.