

## Reflection Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> Week Easter St Bede 2023

**St Bede the Venerable (673)** was born in the north of England near Wearmouth monastery. He joined the monastery and spent all his life there or at Jarrow, teaching and writing. He was an outstanding ecclesiastical author. He wrote commentaries on Scripture; an ecclesiastical history of the English people, a unique and irreplaceable resource for much of early English history; and the first martyrology (collection of saints' lives) to be compiled on historical principles. He was 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 last moments of his life. He is venerated as the "light of the Church" in the Dark Ages, and as a forerunner of the 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> century renaissance of the Western Church.

### **Bede the Venerable**

- *And I pray thee, loving Jesus, that as Thou hast graciously given me to drink in with delight the words of Thy knowledge, so Thou wouldst mercifully grant me to attain one day to Thee, the fountain of all wisdom and to appear forever before Thy face.*
- *I was no longer the centre of my life and therefore I could see God in everything.*
- *He alone loves the Creator perfectly who manifests a pure love for his neighbour.*
- *Unfurl the sails, and let God steer us where He will.*
- *This life of man appears for a short space, but of what went before, or what is to follow, we are utterly ignorant.*
- *Before the journey that awaits us all,  
no man becomes so wise that he has not need  
to think out, before his going hence,  
what judgment will be given to his soul  
after his death: of evil or of good.*

**What do you call** a bear without any teeth? A gummy bear!

**I went to the doctors** the other day and I said, 'Have you got anything for wind?' So he gave me a kite.