

## Reflection Friday Week 13 – 2023

Have you ever thought that Jesus probably liked eating with the tax collectors because he found them for more interesting company than the Scribes and Pharisees? One of the great things about Jesus is that he did not judge a book by its cover. Being a tax collector does not automatically make you an evil person. Jesus was able to look into the heart of a person and see not just their faults but their goodness, their value and the desire to be a better person. It is also probably true that the Tax Collectors sensed this in Jesus, that he accepted them as they were, warts and all.

**Macrina Wiederkehr osb:** *Each person you meet is more like a loaf of uncut fresh bread. It is difficult to fathom the depth and potential of each person... like treasures hidden in a field. Each person is a lot like you, deep and not fully explored, sacred and beautiful, fragile and strong. People are nourishing. When your depth meets the depth of another person, what a sacrament that can be! Sacrament: "a visible sign of invisible grace" Most of us meet quite a few people during our lifetimes... Linger awhile over each person you meet, each person you live with, each relationship, even those people you see walking through crowds, the strangers you do not know. Look on them with love. Contemplate them... Try to see people as individuals, as people who share the earth with you. They are the Body of Christ. You have a common God... the love God has for each is the same. Bless them, then, by seeing them. Look on them with love. If Jesus' look was enough to bless and heal others, yours can be, too... a gift of love, a sacrament, a meeting....*

.....and know that this is the way Jesus sees us!!

**If you are offered £50,000** knowing that the person you hate the most in the entire world will receive £100,000. Would you take it? **Yes! Why wouldn't I want £150,000.**

**When I give a lecture, I accept that people look at their watches, but what I do not tolerate** is when they look at it and raise it to their ear to find out if it has stopped.