View from the Vicarage June 2018

Robert Louis Stevenson said this:

“The best things in life are nearest: breath in your nostrils, light in your eyes, flowers at your feet, duties at your hand, the path of right just before you. Then do not grasp at the stars, but do life’s plain, common work as it comes, certain that daily duties and daily bread are the sweetest things in life.”

Yet how often we waste our lives hankering after something just out of reach, whether it be something tangible like an exotic holiday, or a new car or something more nebulous like a new relationship, instead of just finding pleasure in the present moment.

Thomas Merton, a 20th Century Catholic theologian said this

“If we are fools enough to remain at the mercy of people who want to ***sell*** us happiness, it will be impossible for us ever to be content with anything. How would they profit if we became content? We would no longer need their new product. The last thing the salesman wants is for the buyer to be content. You are of no use to our affluent society unless you are always just about to grasp what you can never have.”

Mindfulness and meditation both help us to focus on the here and now, find pleasure in the everyday, be content with how and where we are living, be content with those companions God has placed in our neighbourhood.

Why not try to find some time in June to call in to one of our three open churches, St Just in Gorran Haven, St Goran at Gorran Churchtown or St Michael’s at Caerhays and just pause, reflect and give thanks for all we have.

Our churches are there for us all, local or visitor, friend or stranger. There you will find peace of God, that peace which passes all understanding. God does not want us to ***buy*** anything, just that we know he loves us unconditionally, and that he is there for us, unchanging and eternal.

With every blessing