

# Parish of Blaris

Sunday 26th July 2026  
The Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

## ST. PATRICK'S CHURCH

**Masses Monday – Friday 10.00am**

**Saturday Vigil: 6.30pm**

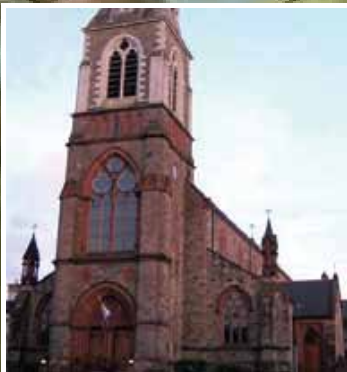
**Sunday: 10.00am & 12 noon**

## LIVE WEBSTREAMING OF ALL MASSES

Please note many parishes in the Diocese have webcams installed which provide live coverage of various Masses taking place daily throughout the Diocese. These can be accessed by visiting [www.downandconnor.org](http://www.downandconnor.org) Links to Parish Webcams. Live Church webcam links: CHURCH SERVICES. TV & MCN MEDIA CHURCH WEBCAMS

*Jesus said to the crowds, 'The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field which someone has found.'*

*Matthew 13:44*



Fr. Dermot McCaughan, PP: 028 9266 2341  
Fr. Eamon Magorrian, CC: 028 9266 2348

Parish Office Opening Hours:  
Monday-Friday 10.30am-4.00pm.  
Closed 1.00pm-2.00pm.

Parish Office: 028 9266 0206 Fax: 028 9266 5690  
Email: [lisburn@downandconnor.org](mailto:lisburn@downandconnor.org)  
Pastoral Centre: 028 9260 7110  
[www.parishoflisburn.org](http://www.parishoflisburn.org)

## INTRODUCTORY RITES

*Congregation stands***Entrance Hymn or  
Entrance Antiphon****Ps 67: 6-7, 36**

**All:** God is in his holy place,  
God who unites those who dwell in his house; he  
himself gives might and strength to his people.

## GREETING

**Priest:** In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and  
of the Holy Spirit.

**All:** Amen

**Priest:** Grace to you and peace from God our Father and  
the Lord Jesus Christ.

**All:** And with your spirit.

## PENITENTIAL ACT

**Priest:** Brothers and sisters, let us acknowledge our sins,  
and so prepare ourselves to celebrate the sacred  
mysteries.

**Priest:** You raise the dead to life in the Spirit:  
Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

**Priest:** You bring pardon and peace to the sinner:  
Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**

**Priest:** You bring light to those in darkness:  
Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

**Priest:** May almighty God have mercy on us,  
forgive us our sins,  
and bring us to everlasting life.

**All:** Amen

## GLORIA

**All:** Glory to God in the highest,  
and on earth peace to people of good will.

**We praise you, we bless you,  
we adore you, we glorify you,  
we give you thanks for your great glory,  
Lord God, heavenly King,  
O God, almighty Father.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,  
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,  
you take away the sins of the world,  
have mercy on us;  
you take away the sins of the world,  
receive our prayer;  
you are seated at the right hand of the Father,  
have mercy on us.**

**For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the  
Lord, you alone are the Most High,  
Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of  
God the Father.  
Amen.**

## THE COLLECT

**Priest:** Let us pray.

*Pause for silent prayer*

**Priest:** O God, protector of those who hope in you,  
without whom nothing has firm foundation,

nothing is holy,  
bestow in abundance your mercy upon us  
and grant that, with you as our ruler and guide,  
we may use the good things that pass  
in such a way as to hold fast even now  
to those that ever endure.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the  
Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

**All:** Amen.

## THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

*Congregation Sits*

## FIRST READING

A reading from the book of the Kings

**3:5. 7-12**

The Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream and said, 'Ask what you would like me to give you.' Solomon replied, 'Lord, my God, you have made your servant king in succession to David my father. But I am a very young man, unskilled in leadership. Your servant finds himself in the midst of this people of yours that you have chosen, a people so many its numbers cannot be counted or reckoned. Give your servant a heart to understand how to discern between good and evil, for who could govern this people of yours that is so great?'

It pleased the Lord that Solomon should have asked for this. 'Since you have asked for this' the Lord said 'and not asked for long life for yourself or riches or the lives of your enemies, but have asked for a discerning judgement for yourself, here and now I do what you ask. I give you a heart wise and shrewd as none before you has had and none will have after you.'

**All:** The word of the Lord  
**Thanks be to God.**

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 118:57. 72. 76-77. 127-130. R v.97**(R) Lord how I love your law!**

1. My part, I have resolved, O Lord,  
is to obey your word.  
The law from your mouth means more to me  
than silver and gold. **(R)**
2. Let your love be ready to console me  
by your promise to your servant.  
Let your love come to me and I shall live  
for your law is my delight. **(R)**
3. That is why I love your commands  
more than finest gold.  
That is why I rule by your precepts:  
I hate false ways. **(R)**
4. Your will is wonderful indeed;  
therefore I obey it.  
The unfolding of your word gives light  
and teaches the simple. **(R)**

## SECOND READING

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans **8: 28 - 30**

We know that by turning everything to their good God cooperates with all those who love him, with all those that he has called according to his purpose. They are the ones he chose specially long ago and intended to become true images of his Son, so that his Son might be the eldest of many brothers. He called those he intended for this; those

he called he justified, and with those he justified he shared his glory.

**All:** The word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

*Congregation stands*

## ACCLAMATION

**Jn 15:15**

**All:** Alleluia, alleluia!  
I call you friends, says the Lord,  
because I have made known to you  
everything I have learnt from my Father.  
Alleluia!

## GOSPEL

**Priest:** The Lord be with you.

**All:** And with your spirit.

**Priest:** A reading from the holy  
Gospel according to Matthew

**13:44-52**

**All:** Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus said to the crowds, 'The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field which someone has found; he hides it again, goes off happy, sells everything he owns and buys the field.

'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant looking for fine pearls: when he finds one of great value he goes and sells everything he owns and buys it.'

'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a dragnet cast into the sea that brings in a haul of all kinds. When it is full, the fishermen haul it ashore; then, sitting down, they collect the good ones in a basket and throw away those that are no use. This is how it will be at the end of time: the angels will appear and separate the wicked from the just to throw them into the blazing furnace where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth.

'Have you understood all this?' They said 'Yes.' And he said to them, 'Well then, every scribe who becomes a disciple of the kingdom of heaven is like a householder who brings out from his storeroom things both new and old.'

**All:** The Gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

*Congregation sits*

## HOMILY

*Congregation stand*

## THE CREED

**All:** I believe in one God,  
the Father almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all things visible and invisible.

I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,  
the Only Begotten Son of God,  
born of the Father before all ages.  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made, consubstantial with the  
Father; through him all things were made  
For us and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven,

*(bow your head up to the words 'and became man')*

and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin  
Mary, and became man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius  
Pilate, he suffered death and was buried,  
and rose again on the third day  
in accordance with the Scriptures.  
He ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory  
to judge the living and the dead  
and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of  
life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son is adored and  
glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic  
Church. I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness  
of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of  
the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

## PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

*Congregation sits*

## THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

Offertory Procession

*The gifts of bread and wine which will become the Lord's body  
and blood are brought to the altar.*

*The celebrant raises the host on the paten saying:*

**Priest:** Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation,  
for through your goodness we have received  
the bread we offer you:  
fruit of the earth and work of human hands,  
it will become for us the bread of life.

**All:** Blessed be God for ever.

*The celebrant pours wine and a little water into the  
chalice, saying quietly:*

**Priest:** By the mystery of this water and wine  
may we come to share in the divinity of Christ  
who humbled himself to share in our humanity.

*The celebrant then raises the chalice above the  
altar and says:*

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation,  
for through your goodness we have received  
the wine we offer you:  
fruit of the vine and work of human hands,  
it will become our spiritual drink.

**All:** Blessed be God for ever.

*Bowing, the celebrant says quietly:*

**Priest:** With humble spirit and contrite heart  
may we be accepted by you, O Lord,  
and may our sacrifice in your sight this day  
be pleasing to you, Lord God.

*Then the celebrant washes his hands, saying quietly:*

Wash me, O Lord, from my iniquity  
and cleanse me from my sin.

Pray, brothers and sisters, that my sacrifice and  
yours may be acceptable to God,  
the almighty Father.

**All:** May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands  
for the praise and glory of his name, for our  
good and the good of all his holy Church.

## PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

**Priest:** Accept, O Lord, we pray, the offerings which we bring from the abundance of your gifts, that through the powerful working of your grace these most sacred mysteries may sanctify our present way of life and lead us to eternal gladness. Through Christ our Lord.

**All:** **Amen**

*Congregation stands*

## EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER III

**Priest:** The Lord be with you.

**All:** **And with your spirit.**

**Priest:** Lift up your hearts.

**All:** **We lift them up to the Lord.**

**Priest:** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**All:** **It is right and just.**

### PREFACE (VIII of Ordinary Time)

**Priest:** It is truly right and just, our duty and our salvation, always and everywhere to give you thanks, Lord, holy Father, almighty and eternal God.

For, when your children were scattered afar by sin, through the Blood of your Son and the power of the Spirit, you gathered them again to yourself, that a people, formed as one by the unity of the Trinity, made the body of Christ and the temple of the Holy Spirit, might, to the praise of your manifold wisdom, be manifest as the Church.

And so, in company with the choirs of Angels, we praise you, and with joy we proclaim:

### ACCLAMATION

**All:** **Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts.  
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

**Priest:** You are indeed Holy, O Lord, and all you have created rightly gives you praise, for through your Son our Lord Jesus Christ, by the power and working of the Holy Spirit, you give life to all things and make them holy, and you never cease to gather a people to yourself, so that from the rising of the sun to its setting a pure sacrifice may be offered to your name.

Therefore, O Lord, we humbly implore you: by the same Spirit graciously make holy these gifts we have brought to you for consecration, that they may become the Body and + Blood of your Son our Lord Jesus Christ, at whose command we celebrate these mysteries.

For on the night he was betrayed he himself took bread, and, giving you thanks, he said the blessing, broke the bread and gave it to his disciples, saying:

TAKE THIS, ALL OF YOU, AND EAT OF IT,  
FOR THIS IS MY BODY  
WHICH WILL BE GIVEN UP FOR YOU.

In a similar way, when supper was ended, he took the chalice and, giving you thanks, he said the blessing, and gave the chalice to his disciples, saying:

TAKE THIS, ALL OF YOU, AND DRINK FROM IT, FOR THIS IS THE CHALICE OF MY BLOOD, THE BLOOD OF THE NEW AND ETERNAL COVENANT, WHICH WILL BE POURED OUT FOR YOU AND FOR MANY FOR THE FORGIVENESS OF SINS.

DO THIS IN MEMORY OF ME.

**Priest:** The mystery of faith.

**All:** **We proclaim your Death, O Lord, and profess your Resurrection until you come again.**

**Priest:** Therefore, O Lord, as we celebrate the memorial of the saving Passion of your Son, his wondrous Resurrection and Ascension into heaven, and as we look forward to his second coming, we offer you in thanksgiving this holy and living sacrifice.

Look, we pray, upon the oblation of your Church and, recognising the sacrificial Victim by whose death you willed to reconcile us to yourself, grant that we, who are nourished by the Body and Blood of your Son and filled with his Holy Spirit, may become one body, one spirit in Christ.

May he make of us an eternal offering to you, so that we may obtain an inheritance with your elect, especially with the most Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of God, with blessed Joseph, her spouse, with your blessed Apostles and glorious Martyrs with Saint Patrick and with all the Saints, on whose constant intercession in your presence we rely for unfailing help.

May this Sacrifice of our reconciliation, we pray, O Lord, advance the peace and salvation of all the world. Be pleased to confirm in faith and charity your pilgrim Church on earth, with your servant Leo our Pope and + our Bishop, the Order of Bishops, all the clergy, and the entire people you have gained for your own.

Listen graciously to the prayers of this family, whom you have summoned before you: in your compassion, O merciful Father, gather to yourself all your children scattered throughout the world. To our departed brothers and sisters and to all who were pleasing to you at their passing from this life, give kind admittance to your kingdom. There we hope to enjoy for ever the fullness of your glory through Christ our Lord, through whom you bestow on the world all that is good.

**Priest:** Through him, and with him, and in him, O God, almighty Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honour is yours, for ever and ever.

**All:** **Amen.**

*Congregation stands*

## THE COMMUNION RITE

**Priest:** At the Saviour's command  
and formed by divine teaching,  
we dare to say:

**All:** **Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name;  
thy kingdom come,  
thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread,  
and forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us;  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.**

**Priest:** Deliver us, Lord, we pray, from every evil,  
graciously grant peace in our days,  
that, by the help of your mercy,  
we may be always free from sin  
and safe from all distress,  
as we await the blessed hope  
and the coming of our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

**All:** **For the kingdom, the power and the glory  
are yours now and for ever.**

**Priest:** Lord Jesus Christ, who said to your Apostles:  
Peace I leave you, my peace I give you,  
look not on our sins, but on the faith of your Church,  
and graciously grant her peace and unity  
in accordance with your will.  
Who live and reign for ever and ever.

**All:** **Amen.**

**Priest:** The peace of the Lord be with you always.  
**All:** **And with your spirit.**

**Priest:** May this mingling of the Body and Blood of our Lord  
Jesus Christ bring eternal life to us who receive it.

**All:** **Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the  
world, have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the  
world, have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the  
world, grant us peace.**

*Congregation kneels*

*The celebrant says quietly:*

Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the living God,  
who, by the will of the Father  
and the work of the Holy Spirit,  
through your Death gave life to the world,  
free me by this, your most holy Body and Blood,  
from all my sins and from every evil;  
keep me always faithful to your commandments,  
and never let me be parted from you.

## INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION

**Priest:** Behold the Lamb of God,  
behold him who takes away the sins of the world.  
Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.

**All:** **Lord, I am not worthy  
that you should enter under my roof,  
but only say the word  
and my soul shall be healed.**

**Priest:** May the Body of Christ  
keep me safe for eternal life.

**Priest:** May the Blood of Christ  
keep me safe for eternal life.

## COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Ps 102:2

**All:** **Bless the Lord, O my soul,  
and never forget all his benefits.**

*Purifying the chalice the celebrant says quietly:*

What has passed our lips as food, O Lord,  
may we possess in purity of heart,  
that what has been given to us in time  
may be our healing for eternity.

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

*Congregation kneels*

**Priest:** Let us pray.  
We have consumed, O Lord, this divine Sacrament,  
the perpetual memorial of the Passion of your Son;  
grant, we pray, that this gift,  
which he himself gave us with love beyond all telling,  
may profit us for salvation.  
Through Christ our Lord.

**All:** **Amen**

## THE CONCLUDING RITES

**Priest:** The Lord be with you.

**All:** **And with your spirit.**

**Priest:** May the peace of God,  
which surpasses all understanding,  
keep your hearts and minds  
in the knowledge and love of God,  
and of his Son, our Lord Jesus Christ.

**All:** **And with your spirit.**

**Priest:** And may the blessing of almighty God,  
the Father, and the Son, + and the Holy Spirit,  
come down on you and remain with you for ever.

**All:** **Amen**

*Then the celebrant, with hands joined and facing the people, says:*

**Priest:** Go and announce the Gospel of the Lord  
**All:** **Thanks be to God.**

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**We remember our beloved dead:**

**MONTH'S MIND:** James Dennison; Ivan Boyd.

**ANNIVERSARIES:** Margaret Comiskey; Mo Treacy; Joe McClure; Fionnuala Kane; Joseph Dumigan (Jnr); Joseph Dumigan (Snr).

**TODAY IS DESIGNATED AS WORLD DAY OF GRANDPARENTS AND THE ELDERLY**  
**Prayer for Grandparents**

Lord Jesus, you were born of the Virgin Mary, the daughter of Saints Joachim and Anne.  
Look with love on grandparents the world over.

Protect them! They are a source of enrichment for families, for the Church and for all of society.  
Support them! As they grow older, may they continue to be for their families strong pillars of Gospel faith,  
guardians of noble domestic ideals, living treasures of sound religious traditions.  
Make them teachers of wisdom and courage, that they may pass on to future generations  
the fruits of their mature human and spiritual experience.

Lord Jesus, help families and society to value the presence and role of grandparents.

May they never be ignored or excluded but always encounter respect and love.

Help them to live serenely and feel welcomed in all the years of life which you give them.

Mary, Mother of all the living, keep grandparents constantly in your care,  
accompany them on their earthly pilgrimage,  
and by your prayers, grant that all families may one day be reunited in our heavenly homeland,  
where you await all humanity for the great embrace of life without end. Amen.  
*(Written by Pope Benedict XVI for the Catholic Grandparents Association)*

**THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR**

**Wednesday 29 July:** Ss. Martha, Mary & Lazarus

**Thursday 30 July:** St Peter Chrysologus, Bishop and Doctor of the Church

**Friday 31 July:** St Ignatius of Loyola, Priest

**Saturday 1 August:** St Alphonsus Liguori, Bishop and Doctor of the Church

**INDIAN CATHOLIC COMMUNITY**

Mass in Syro-Malabar Rite at 3.00pm, Sunday 2nd August in St. Patrick's Church.

**ST. PATRICK'S PASTORAL CENTRE**

Old School Café closed. Re-opening Monday 24th August 2026 after 10.00am Mass.

**Please be aware the LIVE STREAMING OF ALL MASSES takes place in St. Patrick's Church.**

The Privacy Notice for the Diocese of Down and Connor is on display in the Church Porch,  
Parish Office and Pastoral Centre.

**ST. COLMCILLE'S & FAMILY OF PARISHES**

**VACANCY – YOUTH MINISTER** based at St Colmcille's Parish, 191 Upper Newtownards Road, Belfast

The role will require you to work 35 hours per week to include evening and weekend work.

If interested full details including role profile and application form can be found on Diocesan website at:

<http://www.downandconnor.org> clicking on tab: job vacancies or <https://www.nijobs.com>

Closing date for applications will be 12 noon on **Tuesday 28 July 2026.**

**PARISH OF BLARIS – YEAR END DECEMBER 2025 FINANCIAL STATEMENT**

Financial Statement as of 31st December 2025 is posted in church porch.

Any queries please contact Fr. Dermot or Maria, Parish Support Officer– 028 92 660206.

**ST PATRICK'S GAC**

**Senior ladies** play this evening (Sunday 26th) away to St Enda's. Throw in at 18.30hrs. All support is welcome.

**Senior men** continue their preparation for the first Championship game against Glenavy scheduled for  
Sunday 2nd August 2026.

**BULLETIN NOTICES AND ANNIVERSARIES**

Bulletin Notices should be with the Parish Office by 12 noon on Monday  
to be included in the weekend bulletin.

**Please note all emails to Parish Office should be addressed to –**  
**[lisburn@downandconnor.org](mailto:lisburn@downandconnor.org)**

*Live your life that the fear of death can never ever enter your heart. Trouble no one about their religion; respect others in their view. Love your life, perfect your life, beautify all things in your life.*

*Seek to make your life long and its purpose in the service of your people.*

*Always give a word or a sign of salute when meeting or passing a friend, even a stranger.*

*Show respect to all people.*

*When you arise in the morning give thanks for the food and for the joy of living.*

*Abuse no one and no thing, for abuser turns the wise ones to fools and robs the spirit of its vision.*

*When it comes your time to die, be not like those whose hearts are filled with the fear of death, so that when their time comes, they weep and pray for a little more time to live their lives over again in a different way.*

*Sing your death song and die like a hero going home.*

#### **24 HOURS OF PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS FEAST OF ST JOHN VIANNEY 3–4 AUGUST.**

On the Feast of St John Vianney, the patron saint of parish priests, we warmly invite the faithful from across the Diocese to join us at The Parish of St Colmcille, 191a Upper Newtownards Road, Belfast BT4 3JB for 24 Hours of Prayer for Vocations to the Diocesan Priesthood. The vigil will begin with Holy Mass at 7pm on Monday, 3 August, and conclude with Holy Mass at 7pm on Tuesday, 4 August. Throughout the 24 hours, the Blessed Sacrament will be exposed for Eucharistic Adoration. Priests will be available at various times during the night to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation, offering an opportunity to encounter the Lord's mercy as we pray together. We especially invite our parishes, prayer groups, schools, religious communities, youth groups, families, and individuals to come, whether for a few minutes or a longer period, to pray that the Lord of the harvest will continue to raise up generous men to serve His people as diocesan priests. St John Vianney once said, "The priesthood is the love of the Heart of Jesus." As we celebrate his feast, let us unite in asking the Lord to inspire new vocations and to strengthen those already called to serve. **Whether you can stay for an hour, join us for Mass, or simply drop in to pray, your presence and your prayers will make a real difference. All are welcome.**

*Lord, grant peace to our troubled world;*

*Grant understanding of cultural differences;*

*Grant respect for dignity of peoples and nations everywhere;*

*Grant recognition of our common humanity our equal citizenship on the face of the earth*

*For we all live in this one home, this one house, this house, this tent among the stars.*

*Lord, guide us all in the way of peace! Amen. The Prayer Trust.*

#### **Gospel Reflection**

Many of the world's great stories are about treasure-hunting. Today's gospel reading is also on that theme. The treasure being sought is 'The Kingdom of Heaven'. What is that? We can paraphrase it as 'The Presence of God'. A rich young once man asked Jesus, "What must I do to possess eternal life?" (Likewise we could paraphrase 'eternal life' as 'The Presence of God'.) Jesus replied, "Go sell what you have, give the money to the poor, and come follow me." But that sounds much more like dispossession than finding treasure. So the young man went away disappointed because he was very wealthy and didn't want to trade tangible wealth for intangible. That is the trap that holds us all captive.

Have you ever met an immensely wealthy man who was culturally impoverished? He has everything and yet he has nothing. He can enjoy his meals, but he can only eat as much as a poor man (or less); and just like anyone, he doesn't dare drink too much. Books, theatres, museums, exhibitions...are all closed to him. Other countries, to him, are just poor places; historical buildings are only old houses; landscapes are just real estate; other cultures only examples of inefficiency. What is there to do? All he can do is make more money – which must be boring, since he already has too much. He can travel to exotic places, but he has to bring his dull self with him everywhere, which guarantees that everything will remain closed to him.

That is only cultural impoverishment. Imagine spiritual impoverishment. No opening, no direction, no meaning, no value except possessions. Time, to such a one, is an unbearable burden, except when it is money or pleasure; other people are either clients or competitors in the market; and he himself...he prefers not to think about that. There is no account in the gospels of the subsequent career of the rich young man in Mt 19; he is never mentioned again. Not being open to the gift, he got only what he paid for. Jesus said about the rich, "They have had their reward."

Carl Jung (1875—1961) famously said that in his entire career as a psychoanalyst he had never met a person over forty whose fundamental problem was not religious. The "pearl of great price" is there within our grasp, it is being held out to us free of charge. It is free, but to take it we have to have empty hands.

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