

Anglican Diocese
of Cyprus
and the Gulf

[www.cypgulf.org/
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An occasional letter 38: 13 May 2021



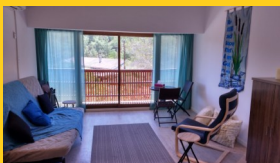
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Opportunities

Enjoy a Break Away

Many of you are wanting to escape the four walls which have been your home, work and social place for the last while. Hotels in Cyprus are now open so how about booking yourself, and possibly your friends, a break at the Angel's Hills Mountain Resort, the home of the Katafiyio Retreat.



The swimming pool is very inviting, as are the local walks and sites in the cool of the day. Please see details on the website above.

Oasis Day 5 June 2021

Join the Manressa community in Ireland for a retreat day at home including the possibility of a one-to-one chat with a spiritual director. More details [here](#).

What do you Desire?

Motivational Talk
Listen by clicking [here](#).
What do you desire for yourself, your family, community, church? How do those desires fit with Christ's ascension commission?

What do you want?

There has been a growing sense of expectancy here on Cyprus as we have come into this week when many lockdown restrictions have been eased. In the Gulf, where we have just finished leading a Retreat in Daily Life by Zoom, spirits have also been lifted. So what do we want now?

Want is about desire. We are often taught that we should be content with what we have so to want something else is not right.

But as Margaret Silf says: without desire we would not get up in the morning; we would never venture beyond our front door; we would never read a book or learn something new.

She goes on: "No desire means no life, no growth, no change."

Jesus liked the question "What do you want?" and used it with people he met. It's a comforting thing to think that God wants to hear our desires. Often on retreat people will be encouraged to imagine Jesus asking them this question and then articulate the answer. This can indicate what's going on deep inside the person.

So what do you want? What do you really want? May be this is a time to evaluate our lives?



Today we celebrate Christ's ascension. A time which marked the beginning of doing things differently. Do we want what we used to have or are we being led to desire something different, even more dynamic? What have the recent restrictions or light bulbs moments taught us about what is most important as we make our choices going forward?

The following prayer by Thomas Merton may help:

"... God, I have no idea where I am going. I do not see the road ahead ... I cannot know for certain where it will end ... But I believe that the desire to please you does in fact please you. And I hope I have that desire in all that I am doing. I hope that I will never do anything apart from that desire..."

Amen? AMEN!

An Exercise

Ponder ...

the following questions. If answered honestly you will discover pointers as to where your deepest desires are rooted.

- What are your unfinished dreams?
- If you had your life over again, what would you change?
- If you received a large sum of money, how would you spend it?
- If you were granted three wishes, what would they be?
- Is there anyone, or anything, you would give your life for?

There may be patterns in your desiring that help you understand more fully who you are. Speak with God about what you have been thinking.

(Above taken from "Wise Choices" by Margaret Silf)



Consider what you desire whenever you pray. What is it that you want from this time? Or what gift or grace are you looking for? Try expressing this to God.

You may like to watch this short clip explaining how our desires can lead us to God - click [here](#).