



A Reflection for Fifth Sunday of Easter

Readings - Acts 11. 1-18, Revelation 21. 1-6 & John 13. 31-35

1 And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea. 2 And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. 3 And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God. 4 And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away. 5 And he that sat upon the throne said, Behold, I make all things new. And he said unto me, Write: for these words are true and faithful. 6 And he said unto me, It is done. I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end. I will give unto him that is athirst of the fountain of the water of life freely.

The woodcut was created to illustrate Revelation 21 for Martin Luther's Bible of 1522. Cranach etched into wood a new city, German in appearance, and had an angel present the city to John of Patmos. The woodcut suggests that the German reformation itself brought newness to Europe, inviting common folk to seek direct access to God.

This weekend is the anniversary of our founder, William the Marshal's, death on 14th May 1219. As the imagery of Revelation 21 inspires a message of hope we remember that Cartmel Priory was founded as a beacon of Christian spirituality. A beacon to shine for Christ offering true hope that will find its fulfilment in a new Jerusalem.

We give thanks for our founder who had Cartmel Priory built upon the lands of Cartmel. We recognise that we are stewards of this sacred place and with that we are charged with the telling of the Jesus story so that his story intertwines with the many stories that meet in The Priory, including our own.

Thank you for reading and keep safe.

The Reverend Nick Devenish

*Night Prayer from Cartmel Vicarage is live streamed from 9.00pm week nights on Facebook.
Keep connected by going to the Cartmel Priory Facebook page.*