



## A Reflection for Sixth Sunday of Trinity Readings - Colossians 2.6-15 & Luke 11.1-13

*Jesus said, 'Suppose one of you has a friend, and you go to him at midnight and say to him, "Friend, lend me three loaves of bread; for a friend of mine has arrived, and I have nothing to set before him." And he answers from within, "Do not bother me; the door has already been locked, and my children are with me in bed; I cannot get up and give you anything." I tell you, even though he will not get up and give him anything because he is his friend, at least because of his persistence he will get up and give him whatever he needs.*

*'So I say to you, Ask, and it will be given to you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you. For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened. Is there anyone among you who, if your child asks for a fish, will give a snake instead of a fish? Or if the child asks for an egg, will give a scorpion? If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!'*

It has been an inspiring week in The Priory as we welcomed back The Marshal Player's who performed different scenes from a selection of plays written by William Shakespeare. From 'Taming the Shrew' to 'Romeo and Juliet', 'Midsummer Night's Dream' and 'As you like it'. Shakespeare uses the imagery that the world is a stage and we each have our exits and entrances. The choices we make as to our exits and entrances will have a bearing upon the whole of our lives. How will we decide upon the choices that we make?

Jesus teaches the parable that we are to ask, seek and knock after him. After The Divine.

The English Pre-Raphaelite artist, Holman Hunt, depicted this parable in his painting 'The Light of the World'. Jesus is standing by a door, an exit or entrance, as he holds aloft a lantern. The door is overgrown and there is no handle for him to turn.

The door is symbolic of a person's life and Jesus is longing to be invited in. Jesus is not seeking to force his way in but waits. The door does have a handle but it is on the other side to him. Will the door be opened to Jesus?

Jesus asks, invites, everyone to believe in him. The world of which Shakespeare describes as a stage was created in and through Jesus. Jesus invites us to believe in him. For we are to place our hope in him as we make our exits and entrances in this life and in death. We are invited to ask, seek and knock.

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.*

*Image - 'The Light of the World' by Holman Hunt*