



## A Reflection for Second Sunday before Lent Readings - Colossians 3.12-17 & Luke 10.25-37

*As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful.*

This weekend at the Priory we celebrate Valentine's Sunday and we give thanks for the gift of love. The Priory being a place that connects each of us together and to something other than ourselves, the source of love. As a Christian community we celebrate love and seek to live lives that are loving.

The epistle to The Colossians help us in our understanding of how love is to be lived out. We are invited to be hopeful, compassionate, kind, humble, meek and to be clothed in unconditional love.

When Jesus attended a wedding at Cana a catastrophe occurred as the wine ran out. The shame for the newly married couple. This could have had a devastating impact for the rest of their lives! Jesus performs a miracle because of love and the best wine is overflowing. But Jesus does not look for praise or applause. As this wonderful icon depicts he is their to the side as the couple are centre stage. It is love that remains the focus.

In our lives may love be central to all that we are and all that we do.

### Love (III)

*Love bade me welcome. Yet my soul drew back  
Guilty of dust and sin.  
But quick-eyed Love, observing me grow slack  
From my first entrance in,  
Drew nearer to me, sweetly questioning,  
If I lacked any thing.*

*A guest, I answered, worthy to be here:  
Love said, You shall be he.  
I the unkind, ungrateful? Ah my dear,*

*I cannot look on thee.  
Love took my hand, and smiling did reply,  
Who made the eyes but I?*

*Truth Lord, but I have marred them: let my shame  
Go where it doth deserve.  
And know you not, says Love, who bore the blame?  
My dear, then I will serve.  
You must sit down, says Love, and taste my meat:  
So I did sit and eat.*

*by George Herbert*

Thank you for reading.

The Reverend Nick Devenish

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