



15 March 2009

Dear Parishioners,

I was getting out of bed the other morning when this line from the Psalms came to mind:

**Apart from you I want nothing on earth. God is my possession forever.**

It caught me by surprise as I stood there half asleep, yet quite conscious that I needed to listen to what I was saying to myself; or rather what was being said to me.

I do believe that the spiritual life and this search for God bring us face to face with our basic need for God: that I cannot live in any meaningful way apart from God. Apart from God nothing makes much sense, and nothing I do seems to have lasting value.

In his book, "The Impact of God" (which I highly recommend), Iain Matthew writes:

**When the horizon out of which I live is God, then there is room to breathe. When it is less than God, the world becomes suffocating.**

God gives our lives perspective by which we see life's purpose and meaning. Yet, too easily we lose perspective when faced with those countless demands that crowd in like so many e-mails demanding our immediate attention. Sometimes, I just need to push myself away from that dark desk of mine, take a deep breath, and remember.

I'm reminded of words by the poet William Stafford:

**Everyday something keeps me from the main business of my soul.**

Lent is a time to face that "something". It is a time to remember what matters when all's said and done. It is a time to wake up and let our need for God take hold. For it is within such awareness where we truly begin to see: to breathe and sense the dawning of His presence deep in our souls.

*Father Tim Clark*

Pastor

