

Tuesday Reflection 11 August 2020

So how do we respond to ‘the cry of the poor and the cry of the Earth’?

In his ‘Apostolic Exhortation’ *Evangelii Gaudium* Pope Francis wrote:

“I prefer a church which is bruised, hurting and dirty because it has been out on the streets, rather than a church which is unhealthy from being confined and from clinging to its own security ... I do not want a church concerned with being at the centre and then ends up by being caught up in a web of obsessions and procedures.

...

More than by fear of going astray, my hope is that we will be moved by the fear of remaining shut up within structures which give us a false sense of security, within rules which make us harsh judges, within habits which make us feel safe, while at our door people are starving and Jesus does not tire of saying to us, ‘Give them something to eat’.”

In other words, we are being encouraged to get involved in the world and not allow our vision to be clouded with an unhealthy preoccupation with doctrinal and liturgical niceties. It might be fascinating to speculate on how many angels can dance on the head of a pin, but that does not bring the Kingdom of God one single step closer.

