

Foster the imagination

The imagination is a discovery faculty, a faculty for seeing relationships, for seeing meanings that are special and even quite new.

Thomas Merton

“Imagination bodies forth/The forms of things unknown”. *A Midsummer Night’s Dream.*

The imagination does not explain, but evokes.

What is being called out from you at present?

Is there an image which arises in you that somehow says something about your life at present?

As you sit with your image, let it speak to you,

form you.

Cardinal Newman saw that we are moved to act not by ideas, but by what seizes our imaginations.

What images do you live by?

A poor, negative self-image robs us of vitality. A healthy, positive image moves us on. Images are at the heart of living with hope. Jesus imagined the world other than it is. He called it the Kingdom or the Reign of God.

Philip Carter is a retired Anglican Priest. He was the inaugural president of the Australian Ecumenical Council for Spiritual Direction (AECSD). He ran the Julian Centre in Adelaide, an independent and ecumenical centre for spirituality, from 1997-2009.

Contact: juliancentre@gmail.com