

### **Thoughts on the Daily Word:**

*16<sup>th</sup> Week of Year. Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> July. Readings: Exodus 16:1-5,9-15; Psalm: 77; Matthew 13:1-9.*

The real journey begins. What guides them is this amazing pillar of a cloud, lit with fire at night. I have never forgotten the beautiful chapel of the Blessed Sacrament opposite the grotto at Lourdes. The tabernacle was this amazing image of the cloud, known as the 'shekinah' in Hebrew. This cloud would guide them for forty years to the promised land. Just as today it was the living presence of God in their midst, when it moved, they moved. This is something that we have to learn again today. We would call it the Holy Spirit who makes Christ present in resurrection form to us, guiding and empowering us. Feeding us with Christ just as the manna fed the Israelites. Only here, however, is something much more powerful and real, Christ himself. This is the seed that will bring the kingdom to life, and us with it.