

Thoughts on the Daily Word

25th Week of the Year. *Saturday 28th September. Readings: Ecclesiastes 11:9-12:8; Psalm: 89; Gospel: Luke 9:43-45.*

Our family, and usually some others, started holidaying on Holy Island about 1955. I remember those early days so well because the Island was magic for a little boy. No electricity or flush toilets! Walking, jumping into the sea and exploring the many old historical sights on the Island were everything you could want to do growing up. In those days it was a real homely community of mainly fishermen that made you really feel a part of it as we went back year after year. We always went with various grandparents, as did the other families, all piled into a big house. As we walked most days over to the sands for the afternoon, I really became aware of the frail nature of some of us, our nana's as we called them then. I remember thinking that I should value both being able to see and to walk long distances. I told myself that I should keep walking for as long as I could and value my sight. I realise now, as I continue to walk and cycle, and fortunately have some sight, that I am older now than they were then! These are the reflections in our first readings, inviting us to be aware that all things pass and to just value what is important and to be ready for what will come. The Gospel continues the message while the disciples are on a high. Tough times will come but do not be afraid, I will be with you. We all need to hear that message at times, just to keep us steadfast.