

Anglican Diocese
of Cyprus
and the Gulf

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Opportunities

Troodos Retreat
St George Church,
Cyprus
9 July 2022

Details [here](#).



In Quietness
and Confidence
Meditation
Sue Riddell

Take a few minutes to consider the things brought up in this [meditation](#). There are a growing number of these meditations on the Diocesan YouTube channel so do hit the 'subscribe' button for more.



Consider
the pictures
which come to you
through the
following video:

[He clothes the lilies of the field](#)



Video Series

From Fear to Love

Henri Nouwen Society

Sign up for this free series of [videos](#) with handouts starting 16 July.



Consider this...

Whether we live in the Gulf, Cyprus, or anywhere else in the world, it doesn't take long for us to take our surroundings for granted, to not notice everything we first considered exciting, fascinating, life-giving. What we see, hear, and even smell, soon becomes all too familiar and we lose their sense of wonder.

It takes an annual rose festival in Cyprus to make many realise the beauty in the highly scented damask rose. It takes a new exhibition at the Louvre in Abu Dhabi to make us stop and appreciate a particular art form. It takes a new child coming into the world to make us consider the extraordinary thing that happens at birth.

Jesus repeatedly said "consider this." Consider the birds, consider the lilies, consider your life. Basically, stop, look, and listen to what is going on around you; notice how this speaks to you of God.

I wonder what we would see if we gave as much consideration to what is happening on our journey as to what we hope will happen at our destination?

The young wise Elihu said to downcast Job "stop and consider God's wonders."

"The present moment is always full of infinite treasure. What you find in the present moment is according to the measure of your faith."
(Jean-Pierre de Caussade)



Damask Rose, Katafiyio

Moments of revelation and encounters with God often come when we take time to stop and 'smell the roses'.

*"Praying.
It doesn't have to be the blue iris,
it could be weeds
in a vacant lot,
or a few small stones;
just pay attention,
then patch
a few words together
and don't try to make
them elaborate,
this isn't a contest
but the doorway
into thanks,
and a silence
in which another voice
may speak."*
(Mary Oliver)

You may like to try and teach yourself to stop and "consider this" as you walk, swim, cycle, drive, in the coming days. May you find the gift in the present moment and arrive at your destination in wonder!

An Exercise

**CONSIDER
your life**

Where have you been?
What have you have done?
What has happened to you?
Who have you met?
Where has life taken you?

- Draw a meandering road on a large piece of paper.
- Record on the line significant events/times in your life through words/pictures/colour. Begin with the day you were born.
- Consider where you sense God was in each of those times - close, absent, in you, in others, etc? Mark this in some way on your path.
- Consider with God anything that has come to your attention that you feel needs more pondering.



**Listen to
Bishop Robert Barron**
talking about the recent movie [Father Stu](#). The true story of one man's journey through life which led him to consider God's call.