

reflect on it in the context of our relationship with the person of Jesus Christ. If someone loves you e.g. God, they want what is best for you. If you love someone, you don't want to hurt them. The times we sin are the times when we turn away from the person who loves us most. They are the times when we are not in right relationship-with God, with others and with our environment.

The dictionary definition is right-it is a shame! When we are not in right relationships we loose out on so much that god is offering. How can that lead to true happiness? However as Christians we believe in the redemption and forgiveness that Jesus tells us about in his parable of the prodigal son. "Nothing can come between is and the love of Christ..rom:35-39

## Review of the Month

The children's film Shrek which is available on video is well worth looking at! While giving 10 out of 10 for fun and entertainment it is then recommended that you take a second look.

It can pose some very challenging questions around friendship and relationships in general. The main

character Princess Fiona appeared to be something she is not-in what way can we suffer from the same problem? When she first meets Shrek he tells her, "You are not exactly as i expected". She replies, "Maybe you shouldn't judge people before getting to know them". Out of the mouth of babes.....! Perhaps the film

Shrek can challenge you if you look at it in a reflective way. For me, the ultimate message of the film is that, true love is not based on physical beauty, but on the acceptance of the many layers that go to make up an individual. Even if you have seen the film before, have another look. It is well worth it!

Editors note:

We hope that you have found these little bits of light prayerful and thought provoking. They are brought to you by a group of Marist sisters and committed young people who have found these 'bits' helpful themselves and would like to share them.

Contact us:

If you would like to receive a copy of little bits of light each month make sure that we have your name and address.

Feel free to contact us with any questions or ideas you might have that could be included in a later page. Who knows but your idea might bring a little big of light to others! Contact: Amanda, Ciaran, Ann and Pam.

# Little Bits of Light...

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Come and see!

John said 'look, there is the lamb of God'. Hearing this, the two disciples followed Jesus. Jesus turned around, saw them following and said, 'What do you want?' They answered, Rabbi, which means Teacher-'where do you live?' 'come and see' he replied; so they went and saw where he lived and stayed with him the rest of that day. John 1:36-40

Why do you think John called Jesus 'Lamb' of God? What qualities do you associated with 'Lamb'? If Jesus were to ask you 'What do you want?' - what would you say to him?

The disciples knew that Jesus could teach them something. Ask him to teach you now, as you reflect on this passage. hear him invite you by name, '.... come and see' Let him show you where he lives. he lives within you, within those you meet and live with, within those you see on the news, within nature that surrounds you. Stay with him for a while.



The journey of a thousand miles Begins with a single step.

## Spiritual Chewing Gum

Many years ago someone offered me a piece of 'spiritual chewing gum'. She told me that every day she took on little sentence, sometimes from scripture, sometimes from something she had read and she chewed over it' as often as she could that day.

Perhaps you could adopt this good habit. When busy sometimes it is hard to find time to pray for longer periods of time.

### Prayer Tip of the Month

Be yourself!  
In prayer we do not need to play a role or wear a mask.  
Sometimes we do this because we feel we need to earn the acceptance or love of others. In prayer you

But you could spend a few moments regularly when you are alone, waiting for a bus, washing your hair, or even when the ads come on TV! Any moment is a good moment to pray.

We offer you a few suggestions to start you off. Soon you will be able to choose your own chewing gum. don't forget to share it with your friends when the opportunity arises!

are talking to someone who knows you better than you know yourself and you don't need to do anything to earn God's love. Come as you are!

## Spiritual 'Chewing Gum' for the month

- God never makes mistakes and he won't begin with you.
- Do not fear I am with you. IS 41.10
- Don't talk unless you can improve the silence.
- Be careful how you live; you may be the only bible some people read.

### Our World

Countries like ours are full of people who have all the material comforts they desire, yet lead lives of quiet desperation, understanding nothing but the fact that there is a hole inside them, that however much food and drink they pour into it, however many motor cars and T.V. sets they stuff it with, it aches!

## Model of the month!

Julian of Norwich

Julian - Born in 1342 she spent years reflecting on Divine love while living permanently alone in a cell attached to St Julian's Church in Norwich, England. During a severe illness she received sixteen visions.

Suffering - one of her most famous sayings reflected her strong faith in God even that the most difficult and painful times of her life. "All shall be well, and all shall be well, and all manner of things shall be well"

"Trust the highest prayer"

### Questions And Answers

What is sin?

Sin is a word that seems to have dropped from our modern vocabulary. In the past people were continually reminded of the effects of sin.

(We can see further if we "stand on the shoulders of Giants" that went before us!)

Sin - spending year in reflection on God's 'tender love' she gained many humble insights. "How unjust it would be for me to blame God for allowing my sin when he does not blame me for falling into it"

Prayer - By the end of her long life of prayer she could surely give us some advice. In her writings she describes how through our lack of understanding of the ways of love, we pester God with petitions.

She encourages us to trust in God's goodness as "his goodness encompasses all that we can think to ask. The best prayer is to rest in the goodness of God!"

Today it has been consigned to being one of the great mysteries of life! The Chambers Dictionary would define it as "a moral offence or shortcoming, an offence, a shame".

Perhaps we will never understand the true meaning of sin until we