

# The Moment

St Paul in the second reading proclaims stay wide awake.

Strangely it is not only the lethargic and tired but also the busiest people who are asleep to life

Passing hours and focusing attention upon matters that distract and justify

On one extreme

the job and large salary

that pays for the two weeks of holiday existence

Another the hypochondria

that excuses the effort necessary to attempt.

Thus days merge into weeks

Then years pass and are gone in an instant

But there are moments of dynamic significance

Which pass into eternity

And are never lost

Except to those who were too distracted to recognise the wonder

Moments of significance

Childhood memories are often obscured by time and romantic projections of what should be

However beyond the imagery

Are those occasions that formed me and you

The meals that nourished with more than just calories, but with security

The independent expressions of affection given and received deeply

Moments in time which are of eternity

Impossible to live constantly

Mankind cannot bear very much reality

But moments that are open to those prepared to see

To those who are awake

Moments of significance

Those first steps of independence, decisions supported but not made by parents

To the world of no importance

But these occasions are what formed me and you

The anxiety that was healed by courageous resolution

The consequent loss or exhilaration that brought you to today

Moments in time which are of eternity

Impossible to live constantly

Mankind cannot bear very much reality

But moments that are open to those prepared to see

To those who are awake

Moments of significance

The first realisation of love, or confusion of grief

Physical, mental, and emotional transformed by this encounter

These occasions are what formed me and you

Living through those times of wonder as they become the new normal

Seeming to lose the beauty in obligations of work, or mundane responsibilities

But these too are moments in time which are of eternity

Impossible to live constantly

Mankind cannot bear very much reality

But moments that are open to those prepared to see

To those who are awake

As people of faith we are called upon

To use the talents of faith

To pray and thus to see

Mankind cannot bear very much reality

There are those so much more talented than you and me

However

Do not allow all to pass you by

In recognising the moment

You too can reach into eternity