

Reflection *with* Most Reverend David Upton
The Vicar-General of The British Isles

Living in the City of Derby, the place of my birth and surrounded by family and friends; I serve at the Oratory of the Holy Spirit.

My journey to the priesthood began in Scotland, praying and studying in a small congregation of religious Brothers, whilst working as a Registered Nurse in the local hospital. The training I received was a traditional one. I received the Minor orders in the Liberal Catholic Apostolic Church; ordained to the Diaconate on the Feast of the Holy Cross and the Holy Priesthood on the Feast of the Sacred Heart on the Holy Island of Lindisfarne off the coast of Northumbria at the same time being awarded an Associate Diploma of Theology from the European-American University (EAU).

I was consecrated to the episcopate in 2011. My spirituality is guided by the Holy Spirit and the teachings of St Francis of Assisi and St Columba. I believe in the Nicene Creed as a statement of faith and that the holy bible is a collection of inspired texts written by the Prophets and Holy People through whom God revealed His message. I have a deep devotion to the Holy Lady Mary, the Mother of God and regularly recite the Rosary of the Seven Rays. I believe that God revealed Himself through Jesus Christ and that the Central Act of Christian worship is the Holy Eucharist. More recently I have come to know and experience God's love, through my own health issues. Love is a true test of Christianity. The Character of God is rooted in love. We receive God's Love in our relationship with others. God's Love is a gift. God's Love is an energising force and demonstrated through Jesus Christ.

"As the Father has loved Me, so I have loved you. Abide in My love" (Jn 15:9).