

## **SEEING & UNSEEING!**

One of the great Christian thinkers and writers over the last 150 years was the stout Englishman *Gilbert Keith Chesterton (1874-1936)*. This gifted man has been referred to as “*the master of the obvious*” and “*the prince of paradox*”. G K Chesterton as he was commonly known was blessed with the wonderful ability to state an obvious life reality in the most profound and succinct way. He lived in an era of many intellectual giants that included *George Bernard Shaw, H G Wells* and *Bertrand Russell*.

I’m not actually sure if the following statement came from G K Chesterton but definitely the style and the content is consistent with him; “*People often only see what they are attuned to seeing such as a musician best appreciates the sound of a good symphony and a botanist best detects the true beauty of a flower or garden. Similarly, the presence of God is best appreciated by people who first value silence and the reality of the spiritual within the empirical things of life.*”

Amidst many other Chesterton gems, they include the following: “*One sees great things from the valley of life but only small things from the peaks.*” “*A dead thing travels easily with the stream, but it is the living thing that can only travel against the stream.*”

To be effectively attuned to anything worthwhile in life is a challenge in developing a mindset as to what is valuable and what is not in life. *Fr Martin R Maunsell*