

# Trinity News

January 16, 2011

## Epiphany II Revisiting Places of the Heart

I drove 1000 kms in 10½ hours last Sunday day via Canberra to a place called Traralgon in Victoria, about 170 kms from the state capital, Melbourne. My Holden Astra handled beautifully on near-perfect roads. I visited a lot of people in the next three days. They are all people of faith in Christ, and I listened for the intertwining of faith with their stories. It took me 12 hours to come back yesterday. Canberra is not a good place to come through in the middle of the day on a week day. Nothing like Manila traffic, but it still takes time.

Long trips on smooth roads give plenty of time to reflect. The stories I had listened to had several common themes.

My heart-friends are looking for wisdom in order to make sense of what is happening to them and to people around them in our global village. The northern state of Queensland has been devastated by floods, including the capital city, Brisbane. So they all expressed concern about the floods and the loss of life and property, including irreplaceable personal treasures. Mentally, one of the healthiest things to do is to think with compassion for others. It refreshes our interior circuits and enhances our overall well-being. Desiderata says it well: "With all its sham, drudgery and broken dreams, it is still a beautiful world. Be careful. Strive to be happy. Therefore be at peace with God."

At various levels, most of my friends are wondering how faith in Christ makes intellectual sense in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. I like what Carl Jung wrote some decades ago in *The Undiscovered Self*.

"I am convinced that it is not Christianity, but our conception and interpretation of it that has become antiquated in the face of the present world situation. The Christian symbol is a living thing that carries in itself the seeds of further development. It can go on developing; it only depends on us, whether we can make up our minds to meditate again, and more thoroughly, on the Christian premise". This "premise" is the revelation that came with Christ himself from the heart of God to humanity. As JB Phillips translates the opening words of John's Gospel, "In the beginning God expressed himself".

There is an old Chinese saying that when the student is ready the teacher appears. We may be alone on the loneliest track of all, the reconstruction of our own shattered ego, and then the teacher appears. The teacher not only brings words of wisdom, but loving wisdom. Not just words, but the right words for our situation. They are cooling drops on a parched soul. Christ's resurrection makes him available for everyone, his words being fulfilled: "I am with you always".

With love from Down Under.

**Bishop Arthur Jones**

**THIS WEEK:**

TODAY:

- Sunday School, 9:15

TUESDAY: Jan 18.

- Bible Study, 10am

THURSDAY: Jan. 20.

- Midweek Eucharist

**Next Week's Readings:**

Isaiah 9:1-4;

Psalms 27;

I Corinthians 1:10-18;

Matthew 4:12-23

**Your prayers are asked in our healing ministry for** Diana Croyston, JPeter, Beryl Tanner, Douglas Tanner, Ron Thoburn, Suzanne Jacobson, Cena Quiapos, Ron Jacob, Bonnie SyCip, Fidelia Matthews, Jovel Llagas, Ted Whale, Ema Duhaylongsod, Emerinciana Gatela, Amy Gonzales, Carrie Angus, Augusto Natividad, Avelina Collado, Eric Williamson, Susan Dalmas, Sunny Cabanang, Jaqueline Acquiatan, Valerie Jones, Carlyn-Fern Manning, Richard Kendall, Johnny Manning Jr, Gloria Domingo, Fr. Barry Cumberland, Gloria Katsi Araneta, Emilie Nauntofte, Marian Kermanshahchi, Rosaline Soulsby, Divinagracia Benitez, Les Vye-Parminter, Wilson Teh, Rey del Rosario, Jose Songco, Gitte Volk, Cecile Gutierrez, Frances Krook