

TRINITY NEWS

Pentecost XVIII Crossing the Threshold of Reflection

The words of Jesus to Nicodemus in John 3:3 about being “born again/ from above” are grounded in our experience of life. It is part of the intellectual atmosphere in which we breathe mentally in the 21st century that what is lasting has to be authenticated in our own experience.

We are all born from the body of woman who is named as our mother. She is the source of our first taste of food and our first taste of love. She situates us in the world and she nurtures us in it. The expectation that the father will now play a much greater role in the nurture of the child as well as passing on instruction is a blessing in shaping our humanity. It can all go wrong for any number of all too human reasons, but it has brought blessings of sharing and mutual nurture of the child that can only enhance our formation as persons.

We are first born naturally and then we have to be born into our own personality and our own understanding of the world and our way of being in it. Some people find this not too difficult, and others find it excruciatingly painful. We shall soon learn that becoming ourselves and being comfortable within our own skin is one of the toughest of all human assignments, whether the path is apparently easy or strewn with obstacles. The art of learning to be ourselves never ends in this life. But on the way we also give birth to something new in our lives through our involvement with the world around us. We are giving birth to a new person in the world and all that goes with becoming this person

Somewhere along the way something inside ourselves cries out for attention. It is like an inner naval button that is at the centre of our being. We begin to “know that we know”, and we discover that the boundaries of our inner being are unlimited.

It is not something that we can avoid or disregard. John's Gospel refers to it in memorable words from Jesus in his encounter with Nicodemus: "For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten son that all who believe in him should not perish but have eternal life" (John 3:16).

We became fully human in our primal past by crossing "the threshold of reflection"(Chardin). Now we begin to look at the source of the reflection that made us human in the first place. It is like a new birth and it directs us deeper within ourselves. Worship directs us to the centre of our being and into the centre of all calm. Worship and the breaking open of the word of life that does not expand our vision of the world and of God is missing the point. We are inadequate in our attempts to point to the centre of Being and into the centre of our own being, but our faltering attempts are immensely worthwhile. This adventure is the greatest adventure of all. It is the longest pilgrimage of all, but an immense amount of distance can be covered in a few seconds when awareness dawns.

Bishop Arthur Jones

THIS WEEK:

TUESDAY, October 2.
Bible Study, 10:00am
Group Discussion @ the Tutton's,
7:30pm.

THURSDAY, October 4.
Midweek Eucharist, 10:00am,
Chapel.

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:

Genesis 2:18-24; Psalm 8
Hebrews 2:9-18; Mark 10:2-9

WIN PRIZES:

HAVE FUN ON FFF DAY!
A raffle for fantastic prizes
donated by generous
individuals and companies
shall be held on
FFF Day, Nov. 24.
Low priced tickets are
available from Elisa Thoburn
or from any ECW Officer.
Grab a batch of tickets
TODAY!