

TRINITY NEWS

Lent II The Prophetic Speech of God in Christ

Carl Gustav Jung's Red Book was published only recently, though he died in 1961.

It is full of reflections, paintings and symbols. It speaks to the 21st century because some of its symbols and words are timeless. It has prophetic overtones. As Jung says:

“The ancients lived their symbols, since the world had not become real for them. Thus they went into the desert to teach us that the soul is a lonely desert. There they found the abundance of visions, the fruits of the desert. Think diligently about the images that the ancients have left behind. They show the way of what is to come. Look back at the collapse of empires, of growth and death, of the desert and monasteries; they are the images of what is to come. Everything has been foretold. But who knows how to interpret it?”

The brief passage from Luke 13:31-35 set as today's gospel gives us glimpses of Jesus' prophetic insights. The prophets spoke and acted as if the present moment was everything. But their words was so deep and their linked deeds so effective that they interpreted the future as well.

Herod Antipas had threatened to kill Jesus. Jesus calls him a “fox”, a symbol of cunning and striking the defenceless out of the sight of others. Prophets have destinies like all of us. Prophets are killed where and when they engage political power. They are not killed in the remote villages where they came from. Prophets come out of stillness, not rowdiness. Interpretations of what will happen in our tomorrows come from present events, not from the haze of the future.

Jesus says he will cast out demons today and tomorrow and on the third day he will finish his work. His ministry goes past the present moment and extends into his tomorrows. The mention of the third day as the finish his work may presage the resurrection. But it also speaks of the completion of stages of his and our journey. Prophets are killed in Jerusalem but the destiny of this prophet rises above Galilee as in Dali's painting of the Christ of Saint John of the Cross. We are all stoned by others, but not all are killed. The counter image is that of the hen gathering her brood under her wings, a maternal image. Jesus' mother had held him close as a child, and he still felt her closeness as an adult as we do in our inner promptings about the warmth of the first embrace we ever felt. "The child is potential future" (Jung). Jesus spoke about the transparency and potential of the child image. We endlessly repeat our childhood, soaking up its blessings and looking for redemption of any haunting distasteful leftovers of our pain on the way.

The future awaits Jesus as it now awaits us. If we knew what it was we might be terrified. Our solace is that the One blessed by God brings the future into the present all the time to reassure us that we are not alone. We cannot swindle our way past the pain of Christ or our own pain.

Bishop Arthur Jones

Lenten Studies

Handling Human Toxicity or a title suggested by the participants!

The Lenten studies begin this Tuesday February 26 and Wednesday February 27 in the parish office at 7:30 PM. We should be finished by 9.00pm each night. There are 6 more chairs in my office which is adjacent to the main office if needed. The Study book is **The Law of the Garbage Truck** by David J Pollay. The book can be downloaded to a hand-held device. I have five copies and we can photo-copy the opening pages for the first session. At this stage it is scheduled to go for eight weeks and we shall see by the attendance on Tuesday and Wednesday whether we can have it on one night or whether we require two sessions per week.

With anticipation,
Bishop Arthur Jones and Deacon Melvin

THIS WEEK:

LENTEN STUDY:

Book: *"The Law of the Garbage Truck"* by David J. Pollay

Tuesday & Wednesday,

Feb 26 & 27, 7:30pm, Parish Office

Wednesday, February 27.

- Bible Study, 10am

ECW Meetings was postponed to

Saturday, March 2.

- EXECOM, 1:00-2:00pm, Parish Hall
- General Membership, 2:00-4:00pm, Parish Hall

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:

Exodus 3:1-15; Psalm 103

1 Corinthians 10:1-13; Luke 13:1-9