TRINITY NEWS

Lent V Nurturing Recollections and the Unforgettable

This week I lost my aunt Eva Reynolds. She had been a loving part of my memory since I was a child. Her great strength of purpose and resilient constitution didn't do her much good at the end as it only prolonged the agonies of her last days. Medication helps, but it doesn't fix everything. Yet her determination to do her best every day helped her to overcome the loss of two children and to survive other difficulties in her life. We remember people because we want them to remain with us. Sometimes we feel guilty because we don't keep their memory alive. We get twinges of heart when we think of someone that we may not meet again. Perhaps they have not entered our thoughts for years, but suddenly they are there and haunting reflections can be stirred. It is like reading a book for the second time and making copious notes, even though we may have passed lightly over the pages in the first place.

I have been attending the Diocesan Convention this week and when I could I have been dipping into Carl Gustav Jung's Memories Dreams and Reflections, which is a kind of autobiography. I found his writings about his childhood and student years and the Retrospect at the end the most fascinating. But there is also a chapter on Confrontation with the Unconscious which is one of the most artistic pieces of introspection and inner exploration ever written. It was Jung who said that "the emotions are the royal road to the soul"; and "yesterday's truth is today's deception, and yesterday's false inference may be tomorrow's revelation." It was Jung who first persuaded me that profound psychology and deep spirituality can go hand in hand. Freud was the first super star of the modern psychological stage. He pushed his way into my thinking with elegant and persuasive words, charting fresh trails. But Freud was in revolt against his Jewish background and the God who lurked in his ancestral memory. Jung amazed me with the width of his reading and the depth of his speculations. He was someone who was really interested in the heaven and earth and underworld of the "circle dance" of human experience. He spoke of the Collective Unconscious, but he also was fascinated by the collective consciousness of humanity, called the Noosphere, "mindsphere" by the Jesuit priest and evolutionist Pierre Teilhard de Chardin.

At the Diocesan Convention I heard a young man from the province struggling with a complex reading from Paul in the Tagalog translation. It was painful to listen to as he tried to grapple with the words. At the end I felt like applauding, but it was more appropriate to congratulate him privately. I told him that he would be a wonderful reader and that he should keep working at it. Encouragement does more good than acid comments which wound others and sweeten only temporarily our own ego.

Refreshment Sunday in Lent has been traditionally used to emphasise the nurturing nature of God and the nurturing nature of the Church. The huge interest shown around the world in the election of Pope Francis has shown up the need for spiritual nurture as well as our persistent preoccupation with pomp and ceremony even when we deride it. I had hoped that the Pope would come from Latin America, though my choice was further south, in Brazil! It is like life in that we all have choices but eventually a decision has to be made.

Bishop Arthur Jones

HOLYWEEK 2013

March 24. Palm Sunday. Eucharist @ 7:30am & 9:30am

March 25-27. Monday-Wednesday Eucharist @ 7:00pm

March 28. Maundy Thursday. Eucharist @ 7:00pm

March 29. Good Friday

- 11:00am Stations of the Cross
- 12:00noon-Liturgy of Good Friday

March 31. Easter Sunday. Eucharist @ 7:30am & 9:30am

THIS WEEK:

Monday.

- Finance meeting, 5:30pm, Parish Office.
- Dinner & Vestry Meeting, 6:30pm, Rectory.

Tuesday/Wednesday.

LENTEN STUDY, 7:30pm, Parish Office.

Thursday.

MIDWEEK EUCHARIST, 10:00am, Chapel.

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:

Isaiah 45:21-25 *or* Isaiah 52:13-53:12 Psalm 22 Philippians 2:5-11; Luke 23:1-49