

TRINITY NEWS

Easter V Immeasurable Mansions of Love in the Father's Heart - John 14:1-14

The Sixth Mansion of The Interior Castle - Teresa of Avila
An Inner Path To God And Your Soul

“Do not be judgmental. Everyone, including you, is quick to make both positive and negative judgments of others and of the trials God sends us. **You never know the truth of what God has in mind.** To judge anything at all is an error *without some thought of our motivation in making it (italics my words).*

Never envy the experiences of others, spiritually or otherwise, because envy reveals a lack of humility. By your actions and attitude, you are demanding to be given what is not rightly yours. To envy the mystical experiences or the spiritual life or calling of others hurts the soul. Envy is a reptile.

Everything good about you comes from God-your talent, your skills, and your abilities; thus, you should not take credit. To fuel your ego shows a lack of wisdom. Control your ego, be humble about your gifts so that you do not misuse them; when you keep yourself focused and clear that God is truly the source of your gifts, your struggle with being pulled apart by either praise or criticism will cease.

Remain humble. Do not look for praise. When someone praises you for your gifts, do not let the energy of that praise penetrate your ego or your mind. It will fuel your insecurities rather than support your soul. You will begin to think, what if I lose this talent? Or, What if I fail? You will begin to torment yourself with thoughts of how others are judging your actions. You will create goals for yourself instead of listening to inner instructions and guidance for how you are supposed to use your gifts. Soon your gifts will fall under the control of others, as you will fall prey to their judgments of you and lose sight of your trust in God.

Develop a special appreciation of those who criticize you; do not resent them. **They are your allies. Look on them as sacred adversaries in action in your life.** They are more helpful than those who praise you because they support your humbleness. They have a true spiritual role in your life. To resent those who criticize you is to forget that you have also criticized others. Remember to use your soul's ability to illuminate your shadows so that you see clearly through seemingly negative events. **Always beyond the darkness, God's greater plan is in motion.** That is the truth you need to trust. It is a truth reached through prayer and the security of humility."

-Caroline Myss Entering the Castle

The medieval mystic Teresa of Avila's Interior Castle has a huge sparkling Diamond which encloses Seven Mansions. The Sixth Mansion includes some wonderful counsel about the practical matters of living a life that has a focus on God. The Seventh Mansion leads into the very heart of God.

The words "**Always beyond the darkness, God's greater plan is in motion**" have entranced me this week.

"We are all visitors to this time, this place. Our purpose is to observe, to learn, to grow, to love... and then we return home" – Australian Aboriginal saying courtesy of Bryan Rigg.

-Bishop Arthur Jones

THIS WEEK:

May 19, Monday.

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

May 21, Wednesday.

- Bible Study, 10:00am
- Bible Study, 7:30pm, Parish Office

May 22, Thursday.

- Midweek Eucharist, 10:00am, Chapel

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:

First Reading: Acts 17:22-31; *Psalm* 148

Second Reading: 1 Peter 3:8-18; *Gospel:* John 15:1-8
