

TRINITY NEWS

PENTECOST VII God's Spirit Searching for Goodness in the World

We know that in all things God works together for good for those who love him, who are called according to his purpose' (Romans 8:28)

This is an ancient alternative reading for "all things work together for good."

We do not see all things working for good in Ukraine as the remains of some of those fallen from the sky still lie in the fields surrounded by some people intent on murdering one another. This is only one of many examples of profaning the sacred fabric of human life with murderous intent.

The Gospels are the most important piece of literature ever written on earth in my estimation. They are about the sacred bonds that binds God and humanity. The 8th chapter of the Letter to the Romans comes close to the Gospels for me. Paul's words there give an outflow of the Gospel put into practice in living the Christian life.

Events in the 21st century are forcing a new frantic search for what really matters in human life and destiny. Scientists properly search for the key to the rational exploration of the truth about everything that is material. Spirituality looks intently for the truth about our being in the world. What are we all about in ourselves?

Those who believe in God believe in ultimate goodness.

Those who believe in God through Christ believe that we have seen the human face of God's goodness in him.

Those who love God in Christ face the huge challenge of emulating him. That is, being like him in their expression of their faith and internal reflections about it.

Christ calls us by word and example to have a strong will to live that goes beyond our instincts. Our instincts include both a death wish and a powerful survival mode.

We must live not only with a clear observation of our instinctual drives, but primarily to maximize every moment to search for goodness and to live it in a spirit of truthfulness.

Those who live in fear of their fate and endless anxiety are deflected from their will to live.

“The courage to be” is given to us by the Spirit of Christ. He showed it and he encourages it in us.

We are called to live according to the purpose of God, to fulfill the will of God for our unique personal journey on this earth.

Let us live well and soak ourselves in the peace and goodness of God as in a refreshing tub of warm water laden with soft apricot soap bubbles. Then we can observe others with compassion and introduce peace where there is strife. Force ultimately changes nothing. Compassionate observation produces peace that brings changes of views and fresh hope. We all need it. Our world needs it.

Bishop Arthur Jones

THIS WEEK:

Tuesday, July 29. National Holiday. Office closed.

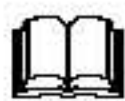
Wednesday, July 30

Bible study, 10:00am

Group discussion, 7:30pm Parish Hall

Thursday, July 31.

Midweek Eucharist, 10:00am, Chapel



NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:

Nehemiah 9:16-20; Psalm 78; Romans 8:35-39; Matthew 14:13-21
