

# TRINITY NEWS

## **Easter II Imagination as a Pathway of Connections**

John Lennon wrote these words it seems ages ago in a haunting song called **IMAGINE**:

**You may say I'm a dreamer:**

**But I'm not the only one**

**I hope someday you'll join us**

**And the world will be as one.**

The Resurrection is a dream come true. **One of the signs of entering a deeper sense of being human is a luminous realization that everything and everyone is connected.** John Lennon's sense of connections may have been drug-related, but as a songwriter he knew about words linked to feelings. The Filipinos have taught me that words and feelings have to go together "like a horse and carriage" to authenticate human expressions. Every letter, every syllable, every shade of intonation and every vibrating depth counts in every line or sentence, spoken or written. Plus the associated body language.

The dialogue between the Risen Jesus and Peter near Lake Galilee does not carry the whole conversation. But in the details we have it is significant that Peter is not chastised here for his failings and his denials of Jesus which may have prompted the conversation. Instead, **Jesus asks Peter three times if he loves him, and Peter responds, "Yes, Lord you know that I love you."** He does not condemn him but seeks his love in order to restore their relationship. Jesus allowed Peter to be himself and to express himself, even though it contributed to his own sufferings.

**This is one the most freeing things on earth. That is, to accept the right of others to express themselves provided that it does not overtly tear down reputations or directly harm another person.**

There is a terrible moment in Luke's Gospel where Jesus turns and looks at Peter as he is arrested and led away bound by his captors. But Jesus is looking at Peter with eyes that mirror love in his gaze. He remains silent and does not castigate him. His own ego barely enters the conversation. The brain and its thinking 'voice' in the ego is hardwired for survival and its own protection. We have inherent reactions and we make them our own. But we can reject them with the aid of The Spirit of Jesus urging acceptance, love and forgiveness.

The dialogue in John 21:15-19 is not only about Jesus and Peter. It is about us as well, because the Teacher wants us to curb negative reactions and to return his gaze of love. We all long to be looked at with Ultimate love and the warm passing love of our companions in the human family. Jesus gave Peter three tasks to love and serve others to back up his claim to love his Lord and friend. His denials are forgotten and the dream of a better future awaits him

Imagine what it can be like for all of us if we enter "the power of an indestructible life" that is not founded on exclusion and hatred and judgement. Rather it is based but on connections and love and feelings linked to words that pass into acts of compassion and care.

IMAGINE all the people and our connections to them around the world. Let us Look at others with a gaze of love mirrored in our eyes. We can then recognize differences without creating exclusions.

**Bishop Arthur Jones**

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### **THIS WEEK:**

Wednesday.

- Bible Study, 10:00am
- Group Discussion, 7:30pm

Thursday.

- Midweek Eucharist, 10:00am, Chapel
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### **NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS:**

Acts 13:15-16,26-33

Psalm 100

Revelation 7:9-17

John 10:22-30