

TRINITY NEWS

Pentecost XIII Interpreting the Present Time from Known Rhythms

Jesus also said to the crowds, "When you see a cloud rising in the west, you immediately say, it is going to rain; and so it happens. And when you see the south wind blowing you say, there will be a scorching heat; and it happens. You hypocrites you know how to interpret the appearance of earth and sky, but why you do not know how to interpret the present time?" (Luke 12: 54-56)

"Look at the birds of the air; they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? Can anyone any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life? And why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they need neither toil nor spin, and I tell you even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these" (Matthew 6:26-29).

An old man was once observed in a park, watching the birds flying around the trees. He was asked, "Do you enjoy this?" He replied by saying, "I come to watch them every day. Then one day something will vibrate in their minds, and some of them will go far away to find a place to breed and to refresh. They fly over oceans and know exactly where to land on some small island to get rest and refreshment when they tire. It is written into their nature, and they respond immediately when the call comes."

According to Genesis, God created the universe to function well so that everything could be integrated and supported within the framework of creation. God created humanity as the crown of creation. When Adam crossed "the threshold of reflection" in the Garden of Eden, and "knew that he knew," the stage was set for our sense of history and our gift of being able to transcend intuitive knowledge. That is, to use the foundational patterns inherent in Nature and add to what is there, like a child constructing something from the instructions given with a new Meccano set. Not the greatest example, but it will do.

The messianic prophet called Jesus of Nazareth listened and looked for the vibrations of creation all around him. Like the old man watching the birds of the air, in the creation he saw the designs of God. He wanted to use the inbuilt vibrations of creation to discern the present time. He saw and felt the goodness that was given to humanity at creation. He was conscious of evil but he was unafraid of it even in his fearsome temptations in the wilderness, not far from Jerusalem.

When he died at Calvary, he left behind the flow-on of what he had transmitted throughout his short life. That is, the in-breaking of the Reign of God, the diffusion of God's love in the world. It is still here, and it is still reflected in the deepest of prayers and in the best acts of love that we can employ. It is an impregnable barrier against hate and like the conscience, it is a persistent reminder of what we are intended to be in our human family. The love of God is poured into us every day because he lived.

Sit a while, and listen for the underlying sounds and configurations of the universe and its earthly centre for us. Teilhard de Chardin talked of a *noosphere*, using the classical Greek word *nous* for "mind" aligned to our global sphere. It preceded the internet and he saw it as a mental canopy covering the earth, linking us all. There are many other linked connections with the beginning of creation that are all around us.

Jesus looked at Creation and saw the Creator. He also knew "what was in humanity". No greater love has ever embraced the human fabric and sought the betterment of its human manipulators than he did. Deep within us we have the resonances of creation and the knowledge that we are caught up in a cycle we cannot control that brought us into life and will take us from it. During our lifetime we should listen and observe what we hear and see in finding clues as to our reason for being and our journey within to find original goodness and to withstand all that seeks to prevail against it. As Jesus said, "Listen!"

Bishop Arthur Jones

THIS WEEK:

Monday.

- Finance committee meeting, 5:30pm, Parish office
- Vestry meeting, 6:30pm, Parish office

Wednesday.

- Bible Study, 10:00am
- Group discussion, 7:30pm, Parish office

Thursday.

- Midweek Eucharist, 10:00am, Chapel

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:

Isaiah 28:14-22

Psalm 46

Hebrews 12:18-19,22-29

Luke 13:22-30



SUNDAY SCHOOL

will begin on Sept 4, 9:15 a.m.

Parents are asked to register their children starting today.

Forms are already available at the church entrance.