

TRINITY NEWS

Pentecost XVII. Lostness and Rediscovered Joy in the World Luke 15:1-10

The Parables of The Lost Sheep and The Lost Coins pick up the theme of ‘lostness’ in Jesus’ teaching.

It is found also in the stories of the Lost Son and the treasure hidden in a field and in the stark sense of loneliness and despair at the Cross. The woman caught in the act of adultery is a lost soul according to her accusers.

There is a deep search going on in the 21st century to rediscover wholeness and peace and a more consistent sense of joy. We sense this is what we are meant to have and we go looking for it. But the ‘target’ is very elusive. We are ‘thrown’ into existence [Heidegger] and we are always searching for destiny markers and present stability.

Jesus addresses ‘lostness’ by pointing to rediscovered joy. It is like the joy of the first humans gazing at the wonders of creation. It is the joy of their looking at each other and finding solace in one another’s arms in a world lit up at night only by the moon and stars and campfires.

Jesus said that he came he came to ‘save the lost’ and he himself had to explore our own wandering in the world, where we are endlessly searching for moments that ground us.

We are saved to be truly ourselves, to be ready to be presented before God in this life and beyond it by the Saviour of the World. He had explored the human lostness that he speaks of in his little stories.

He himself had overcome, even the lostness of death and he offers it to us as a way to wholeness.

That is what a holy person is, someone who has become more whole and complete as the Creator intended. The model of Christ's complete humanity is also a solution through his own person to the human puzzle of our being and its enigmas.

Peace can only be given and perceived, it cannot be achieved by the latest self-help scheme.

We are all looking for what 'cannot be shaken' to ease moments devoid of meaning and purpose.

1. Sharing the joy of finding something that has been lost is suggested in the cited parables as a source of spontaneous joy.
2. Find people who are at ease with themselves and have creative awareness; enjoy being with them.
3. Rediscover your joy in believing and be reassured by the flow to you of the Spirit of Peace.
4. "It is in the act of walking that we make the road." Dare to get up on a day of your worst expectations and give life a go. Someone is always waiting to meet you who came to 'seek out and to save what was lost' [Luke 19: 10].

Bishop Arthur Jones

THIS WEEK:

Wednesday.

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

Thursday.

- Midweek Eucharist, 10:00am, Chapel

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:

Amos 8:4-7; Psalm 138;
1 Timothy 2:1-8 ; Luke 16:1-13

ON SALE!

Copies of a book entitled "With Bigger Eyes and Heart in Head: Being Anglican in Post-Windsor Time" are now available from Bishop Joel Pachao at the Diocesan Office in Baguio City, or through the Prime Bishop's Office in Quezon City. This is written by The Rt. Rev. Artemio Zabala, who currently serves as a retired bishop in residence in the Diocese of Los Angeles.

Proceeds from the sale of this book will go to a mission fund in Baguio to support initiatives for development of lay ministry of Anglicans.
