

Folio Thirty-Nine

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Poems 760-779

- 760 [Dawn of the Eucharist](#)
- 761 [Jesus' Agony in the Garden](#)
- 762 [Jesus' Scourging](#)
- 763 [Jesus' Crowning with Thorns](#)
- 764 [Jesus' Carrying of the Cross](#)
- 765 [Jesus' Crucifixion](#)
- 766 [Jesus' Resurrection](#)
- 767 [Jesus' Ascension](#)
- 768 [Jesus' Giving of the Spirit](#)
- 769 [Mary's Assumption](#)
- 770 [Mary's Crowning As Queen](#)
- 771 [Our Fellowship's Symphony](#)
- 772 [Rainbowed Spirits](#)
- 773 [His Wounds, Source of Our Healing](#)
- 774 [Uplifted](#)
- 775 [Three Birds Outside My Window](#)
- 776 [Members, One of Another](#)
- 777 [Rejoice](#)
- 778 [Radical Conversion : Radiating Fellowship](#)
- 779 [Ears and Voice](#)

Dawn of the Eucharist ¹

(Poem 10, of 20 [#])

Jesus,

OUR Beloved ... Our Eucharist ... ABBA'S own Beloved

Amongst us ! For us !

In You, we hunger, we thirst, ... for UNION with Abba.

Even the passing sense of Your Mystical Body's pain

– The passing distress of a parent,

The sudden anguish of an adolescent –

Has us clamouring to reach out to You,

To share Your healing power.

Your response to our pleas,

Is to flood our lives

With healing, nurture and growth :

BODYING nourishment to all,

Letting Your Own Precious, Glorified Blood

Course through the arteries of our lives

... Renewing us, re-uniting us,

Re-conforming us to Your likeness.

Our response to You , the Word, ALIVE, in the BODY of our Church

– To Your circulating BLOOD, re-affirming us, as KIN–

Is beyond words, beyond verbal thanks :

It is You, You Yourself Jesus !

The only one worthy to express our love to Abba !

The living expression of love itself !

Opening all our hearts to Abba ... in Yours !

In this Paschal 'hour' of our lives, we ARE
– Co-crucified with You, surrendering all !
– Raised up, and incorporated into You, the New Man !
– Welcomed back home, IN You, within Abba's rapturous embrace !
– En-Spirited into the Paschal Fellowship of Love ...
– And empowered to lavish Their Spirit of Communion
... Upon each brother, each sister,
So that WE BECOME EUCHARIST, in You – for the world !

See Note, Poem 751.

Jesus' Agony in the Garden ¹

(Poem 11, of 20 [#])

Jesus,
In this ancient olive grove,
In IMMERSING Your radically open-hearted spirit
In our humanity's ocean of sin
– In all its overwhelming
Horror, ugliness, stench, bitterness, revulsion and isolation –
You experience, FOR US –
The cruelty of pride,
The false joy of spitefulness,
The cold-heartedness of envy,
The tortuousness of compulsions,
The indifference of violence,
The bitter stubbornness of revenge,
And the ruthless meaninglessness of murder !

Still, Jesus,
Even while the terror and primal shock of all this
Expels Your very life-blood
Through the pores of Your shuddering skin,
You continue ... and continue ... to LOVE
– Responding, in Your agony, with forgiveness
To all the enemies of love,
... From gross self-centeredness to communal rejection of love.

*Then, in the stark, bleak spirit-scape
Of feeling abandoned by Your Beloved Abba,
Your love AS SON resolves itself*

Into blind trust ...

Into that deepest, most solitary, totally unknowing

SENSE OF DEPENDENCE

—Sheer, raw faith :

“Only what you want, Abba !”²

See Note, Poem 751.

1 Poem 761, Year 8 of Prayer Ministry, Clayfield Community Brisbane, September 2006, Week 1

2 Lk 22:43.

Jesus' Scourging ¹

(Poem 12, of 20 #)

Jesus,
As the lash rips skin from Your chest and back
– Embodying, in searing pain,
The whole murderous war of flesh upon the spirit –
You continue, in Your heart's abyss,
To faithfully mirror
Abba's limitlessly tender embrace of "all flesh".

While evil wreaks havoc externally,
Lacerating Your quivering frame,
Convulsing all Your muscles ...
It also seeks to crush and VOID Your trust
In the Love – that – lasts !
Yet, these hellish waves of pain
Only DEEPEN Your trust in Abba !

See Note, Poem 751.

Jesus' Crowning with Thorns ¹

(Poem 13, of 20 #)

Jesus,

As the sheer malevolence of Empire

– Mirroring our common human tendency to visit mindless violence

On anonymous, blameless victims –

Vengefully drives the thorns of spite or envy

Deep into Your skull,

You choose – FOR OUR SAKE – to submit

To evil's onslaught.

This onslaught of vicious inhumanity punctures first, Your body,

Then Your heart's emotions,

And then, tries to INVADE Your mind

–By mocking Your kingdom of love,

And trying to devalue Your kinship of love with us !

This submission to evil's impacts, only serves to highlight

Your earlier, sublimely humble, radical choice

To set aside the Divine Dignity

– The Glory of the Triune Fellowship of Love !

This is a dignity You abdicated,

Simply and solely, TO BE WITH US

... To re-connect us to Your Father,

Thereby humbly re-modelling human trust,

Our trust in the tenderest of Fathers

... Through You, the kindest of brothers !

See Note, Poem 751.

Jesus' Carrying of the Cross ¹

(Poem 14, of 20 [#])

Jesus,

You were surrounded on Your way of pain,

By US

... Yet, we "*knew not what we were doing !*" ²

You carried US to Calvary :

WE, were Your Cross !

You picked us up when WE fell

... *Out of compassion.*

Through Simon, begrudgingly – but then, freely,

WE picked You up when YOU fell

... *Your grace, softening our initially indifferent hearts.*

Yet, ultimately, we were incapable, OURSELVES, of a complete change

– *Because WE also did the nailing ;*

WE also stood round jeering and mocking You

... *For NOT coming down from the Cross which, of course, was our cross as well !*

You became OUR spectator-sport

... *As Your body convulsed in spasms,*

And suffocated the last vestiges of human life out of You.

All of US watched You suffering

And, even if some cared,

NONE of US

Had the COURAGE to move against group pressure

– *To relieve Your torment, or to carry the load !*

Mary did ... but believed it more important, to co-offer Your Sacrifice with You

– *To co-witness to Abba's utter love for US !*

It was only when You died
– *As a holocaust* FOR LOVE OF US,
That we realized
That You were ... COVENANTED TO US,
WED TO US UNTO DEATH – AND BEYOND !
“O ! Too late have we loved You !” ³
Too late have we treasured
Your love !

See Note, Poem 751.

1 Poem 764, Year 8 of Prayer Ministry, Clayfield Community Brisbane, September 2006, Week 2.

2 Cf Lk 23:34 3 St Augustine.

Jesus' Crucifixion ¹

(Poem 15, of 20 #)

*Jesus Crucified,
You hang there ... joined to us
In loving kinship
... "Even unto death", ²
But NOT 'to death do us part'
– Because, in being "lifted up",
You draw us to Yourself, ³
And in so doing, draw us TOGETHER,
To each other,
To Communion with Your Divine Family
... Born of Life's resurgence
Out of death!*

*In that 'hour', in You, O Son of Life,
We journey THROUGH death
–IN YOUR BODY, in Your very Person!
In You, as members of Your incipient Church,
We are suspended between heaven and earth ...
Passing over from the heart of sin
To the heart of God!
It is a heart we have access to,
ONLY through the wound of Your open side
–Whence flows the waters of the Spirit ⁴
Alive with the Life of God!*

#See Note, Poem 751.

1 Poem 765, Year 8, Prayer Ministry, Clayfield Community, September 2006. Week 3

2 Phil 2:8

3 Jn 12:32

4 Church Fathers.

Jesus' Resurrection ¹

(Poem 16, of 20[#])

Risen Jesus,

Revivified in You, we are raised up

As the 'New Man', as the 'New Creation' of Abba's Love ! ²

... Raised up in You, the glorious focus of the universe !

The radiant heart of humanity !

... As Son in Fellowship !

As Child of Abba !

As the Beloved !

We are raised as brothers and sisters to You

... As both the Delight of the Cosmos, and beloved feet-washer !

We are raised with You, as the Glorious Body and Blood for humanity,

Whose Blood vitalized Your Glorious Body

And now, courses through our Church Community's 'arteries'

– Nourishing the poor in spirit,

–Nurturing the lowly and humble

... Those who know their need of God !

Wondrously, we are gifted with a myriad of risen brothers and sisters

–A galaxy of KIN !

All have Your eyes, Your smile !

They embrace, with but ONE set of arms – Yours !

Their hearts pulse, with just ONE heartbeat – Yours

... Drawing all into its RISEN rhythm

–Pulsing as ONE with Abba's Spirit !

Paradoxically, it is YOUR WOUNDS
... That, having opened a passageway to Abba's Heart on the Cross,
Now become emblems of identification with You !
Our icons of adoption !
The Spirit's seal of Glory for us !

See Note, Poem 751.

1 Poem 766, Year 8, Prayer Ministry, Clayfield Community, September 2006. Week 3.

2 Eph 2:15 J.B. then N.R.S.V.

Jesus' Ascension ¹

(Poem 17, of 20[#])

Jesus Ascended,

As the sun of Eternal Life IS ALREADY RISEN in Your spirit,

With You, we are swept up into the arms of Love :

Enraptured in the Fire of Abba's Divine Heart !

In that Spirit of Love, KISSED FORTH between Abba and You,

We IN You, proclaim the ASCENSION of humanity

–To the Glory of God !

In Your Radiant Body

–The apogee of Creation !–

Our transformed spirits, infinite with Your capacity,

Are filled, to overflowing

With the Divine Glory

–Abba's, and now, Your very own Spirit !

THUS is our humanity divinized in Yours :

Abba's "Promise" to You, ²

Now becomes Gift ALIVE in You !

"Given without reserve," ³

Given to be shared with us,

Your ennobled brothers and sisters !

See Note, Poem 751.

1 Poem 767, Year 8, Prayer Ministry, Clayfield Community, September 2006. Week 3.

2 Acts 2:33. 3 Jn 3:34.

Jesus' Giving of the Spirit ¹

(Poem 18, of 20[#])

Jesus Ascended,

Because the Triune Fellowship's ongoing free choice

–That 'All that is Gift, is GIVEN'–

Now wholly suffuses Your humanity,

Your RECEPTION of the Spirit as the New Man,

Now BECOMES OURS !

Yes ! The Spirit that is Abba's Gift to You, becomes Your Gift to us :

The Spirit of the Prophets' Promise ! ²

The Spirit of a humanity UPLIFTED !

The Spirit of a homecoming Son

... "I must arise and go to My Father", ³

The Spirit of a Beloved Son's Enrapture

... Being enveloped by a prodigal Father,

The Spirit of Adoption ... "that cries Abba !", ⁴

The Spirit animating, variously, all created reality

... Your flesh, our spirits, the cosmos,

Yes ! This Spirit of Mystery ... of Holiness ... of Glory ...

This Spirit given to You, O Ascended Jesus : is now given to us !

This Spirit received as Gift from You : now is ours to give !

In Abba, the Spirit is Love who is creative !
In You Jesus, the Spirit is Love who trans forms !
Within all, the Spirit is Love as Communion !
– A Love communicating Itself,
Bringing to birth, communities of love
... Pre-eminently, the Church,
The New Community of selfless love,
Gathered together in the Person of ASCENDED, CRUCIFIED LOVE !
This Spirit is now, alive in us – yet , still to come !

See Note, Poem 751.

1 Poem 768, Year 8, Prayer Ministry, Clayfield Community, September 2006. Week 4.

2 JL 3:2, EZ 39:29, IS 42:1

3 LK 15:18

4 ROM 8:15

Mary's Assumption ^{** 1}

(Poem 19, of 20[#])

Jesus,

Your Mother, in being drawn to Abba's bosom,
Is the first WITNESS to full, resurrected love
– The prime witness to that immense transformation
That elevates and animates all human consciousness !

Assumed into the embrace of Glory,
Mary anchors faith, inspires hope,
And personalizes “the love that never ends”. ²

Her FAITH defines her being :
She is pure RECEPTIVITY to the Spirit,
Pure ATTENTIVENESS to the Word,
And pure ADORATION of the Father
... “My spirit glorifies the Lord !” ³

Her HOPE provides a model for the Church :
In her, the Church beholds its OWN IDENTITY,
And finds expressed in her,
What it is called to be !
And, like Mary assumed, “will see heaven OPENED,
And the angels of God , ascending and descending
On the Son of Man.” ⁴

*In her surrender in love, Mary is taken up
Into the very heart of God,
Whose Son she cradled and saw die.
O Jesus, in drawing Mary “to Yourself in splendour”,⁵
She becomes humanity’s witness that this is OUR DESTINY !*

** This poem, in particular has little original content : it is more a poetic paraphrase, heavily using
Father A. Kelly’s prose phrasing. See # Note Poem 751.

1 Poem 769, Year 8, Prayer Ministry, Clayfield Community, September 2006. Week 4.

2 1Cor 13:8

3 Lk 1:46

4 Jn 1:5

5 Cf Eph 5:27 (N.R.S.V.)

Mary's Crowning as Queen

** 1

(Poem 20, of 20[#])

Jesus,

Abba's crowning of Your Mother

... As the earthly co-regent of heavenly love ...

Overflows Your heart with a Son's love !

Within the depths of her life in God,

Mary inhales, and breathes forth

—As does the Church, for whom she is an icon—

Abba's and Your own Holy Breath of Fellowship !

She is, thus, the first EMBODIMENT

— Within Your own Glorified Body —

Of that wondrous Fellowship

Which we are ALL being called to receive, and communicate !

Mary's co-regency in love is a human symbol

Of created reality, aflame with God's grandeur !

As such, O Jesus,

Mary is the ANTICIPATION

Of Your promised TRANSFIGURED creation :

In her, the great cosmic marriage begins !

JESUS Ascended ... in Mary, IN YOU,

WE become beautiful to God !

In her glorious giftedness, our history matures

... And arrives at its age of consent !

All this is expressed, in her now eternalized 'fiat'

... 'I surrender all to Love Transcendent !' 2

*Out of the heavenly womb of Mary's SPIRIT,
Husbanded by Abba,
The WHOLE CHRIST of a transfigured creation
Is born !
In Mary, exalted as co-regent in the Spirit,
The Gift of the Trinitarian Paschal Mystery
Has ALREADY been assimilated
By our hope-filled humanity !
Mary, Queen of hearts, you are OUR HOPE !*

** This poem includes, about 40%, of Father A. Kelly's prose phrasing and thus while not wholly original, it is out of a partnership that I have fashioned this poem.

See Note, Poem 751.

1 Poem 770, Year 8, Prayer Ministry, Clayfield Community, September 2006. Week 4.

2 Imagined quote.

Our Fellowship's Symphony ¹

*O Spirit of surprise,
Free our heart's voice
To join and harmonize
With those Divine tones sounding from every Paschal heart
—Especially with the deep poignant tones of crucified souls.*

*TOGETHER, the symphonic beauty
Of our New Fellowship's combined chorus
—Resonating AS the Ascending Word—
Transcends and transforms our lives
... As our eager response
To Abba's Song of Welcoming Love to us !*

Rainbowed Spirits ¹

*We are but floating droplets of water
Misted, by that Stream of Life
Flowing from Christ's crucified side.*

*As His EASTER'S radiant white light
Strikes this 'spray',
We become rainbowed prisms, alive with Life !*

*Now, we are no longer isolated floating droplets
But TOGETHER,
Arching across Abba's skyscape,
We reflect the Paschal Face
Of Christ's rainbowed Beauty ...
Shimmering in the mist of Easter Morn.*

His Wounds, Source of Our Healing ¹

“Jesus’ wounds are never healed over” ²

... From them, Eternally,

Pours forth His Glory

For us.

Why? Because Jesus’ wounds are within us,

Within us, who are HIS BODY !

We truly co-share in His glorious woundedness :

“For the wounds ... of my people” is MY heart wounded ! ³

The Glory pouring forth from His Wounds

Regenerates us, makes us whole ... IN Him

So that we become “an altogether new creature”, ⁴

Members of the New Paschal Person of Christ,

Co-sharing in the DESTINY of our Ascended Brother.

1 Poem 773, Marian Valley Retreat, early October 2006, Day 1.

2 Saying of Fr Gabriel, member of the Marian Valley’s Pauline Monastery.

3 Jer 8:11

4 Gal 6:15 (J.B.)

Uplifted ¹

Inspiration: “The whole of our Life, in Christ, is a continuous process
... Of God drawing us, raising us up to Himself, uplifting us.” ²

*In being UPLIFTED into the Beloved’s Eucharistic Presence,
Raised up into the unfolding of the Paschal Mystery –
... the more humility is entrusted to us,
the warmer is our sense of being ‘at home’;
... the warmer our sense of being ‘at home’,
the greater is our surrender of self;
... the greater our surrender of self,
the stronger is our yearning for intimacy and union;
... the stronger our yearning for intimacy and union,
the deeper we identify as both ‘beloved’ and ‘lover’;
... the deeper we identify as both ‘beloved’ and ‘lover’,
the free-er are the movements of His Spirit
– from Jesus ‘without’, to Jesus ‘within’ us.*

*Indeed, when the Eucharistic Jesus engages us, heart to heart
... the LESS our sense of self, of singularity, of separateness,
the deeper is our sense of the Other, of belongingness ;
... the less our attentiveness is to timing, to surrounds, to activity,
the deeper is our sense of timelessness, spacelessness, and stillness ;
... the less we attend to words, even Jesus’ WORDS,
the more the Beloved’s VOICE silences our hearts ;
... the less we attend to the taste of the Sacred Bread and Wine
– to OUR experience of Eucharist –*

*The more the Beloved delights in bestowing His Kiss ;
... the less we focus on the earthen impacts of Jesus' Body and Blood,
the more receptive is our sense of BEING RAISED,
Of both transcending this earth, and being re-connected to it !
... and ultimately, in deepest simplicity,
the MORE we feel transparent to His Light within us,
the more luminously we seem to radiate the Beloved's Presence !*

1 Poem 774, Marian Valley Retreat, early October 2006, Day 2.

2 Fr Gabriel, member of the Marian Valley's Pauline Father's Monastery.

Three Birds Outside My Window ¹

*Inconspicuous, its entry into the bush clearing ...
Nonchalant, its meanderings through the weeds ...*

THE PHEASANT still managed

Brief spasms of flight !

It seemed content with its earth bound inheritance,

Yet still aware of flight's benefit ...

And truly conscious of a sky to escape to !

A bird indistinguishable from its surrounds ...

A palette of earthen browns ;

Its only arresting feature –

Impressive, arching tail feathers ...

To guide, to balance it, in its low-level 'sorties'.

This is "the Spirit-bird":

One with us, with our earthbound horizons,

Yet one, calling us BEYOND, and UPWARDS !

Alighting, like dawning rays, upon a branch ...

With a gloriously rainbowed rainment

–An explosion of colour in a kabki tree scape –

THE ROSELLA appeared ... a prince of the spectrum !

Perching close, focussing on my presence,

–Brilliantly garbed, head-dressed in vivid saffron –

It was an exclamation mark

To the ordinariness of the day !

This is "the Christ-bird":

The Easter-Glory bird of our hidden life

Revealing our Destiny !

*Then, as a sunbeam lit up my room,
Out of an overcast day,
A BIRD UNSEEN
–But gloriously HEARD –
Filled my spirit !
Again, and again, and again
Its piping five-note call
– Wondrously melodic –
Danced within my mind,
Bursting like a blare of trumpets
Into my inner being
... A Song of Divine Delight !
This is “The Abba-bird”:
Father of the Child of the New Age –
The Father of a reborn people’s joy !
Parent of a peace that will last forever !*

Members, One of Another ¹

A.

To deny one's self FOR Jesus,

To be 'crucified' with Jesus,

Is to be CARRIED, in Jesus' body,

Through death,

– Out of the isolation of sin,

Out of the Godlessness of evil –

To be uplifted in Jesus' Risen, Ascended Body,

To commune IN God, WITH God !

O Wonder of Love ! O Mystery of Divine Kinship !

Let us then embrace this Passover into Life, IN Christ,

... Wherein brother and sister carries sister and brother,

... Wherein each member is in heart-to-heart communion

With EVERY OTHER member

For, IN Christ,

We belong to one another

... "Members one of another" ! ²

The life we live is that-of-all-others within us :

As we receive from all, to give to all

... All become channels of Life to each other !

This Life, available FROM, and FOR, others

Is AS LIGHT, within and between us.

Thus there is a need for us all, to be TRANSPARENT

– Honest, trusting, open, at every level of our being.

Each is responsible for ALL of humankind ... welcoming or unwelcoming.

Each enlightens those of humanity ... who welcome the Light.

And wondrously, the love with which we love, IN Christ,

Is ALL a gift, from others,

And through us, to others !

B.

Yet, in a particular blessed way,

This ministering to ALL

Is the special ministry of those

“Who have left all to follow Christ”.³

For they are specifically CALLED to bestow their care

Not on the few, or even on the many,

But on ALL .

Still, for many of these evangelically vowed Christians,

Psychologically ... even pragmatically ...

Their hands reach out to many, not all.

Yet when the focus moves beyond care

–To spreading the Good News and to prayer –

Then, with an especial gift of God,

Those Christians, vowed or unwowed,

Who are called to be CONTEMPLATIVES,

Are left, through love, with no focus

–For the Good News, or for prayer –

Other than ALL !

*Often, but not always, physically removed from the world,
They are spiritually available to ALL.
The contemplative heart murmurs its love to the Beloved ...*

*FOR ALL –
Giving the ‘God-deaf,’ new ears,
The voiceless, a voice,
Becoming a praying heart, for all such.*

*The Beloved, in RESPONDING to these latter
– ‘Let me hear your voice
For your voice is sweet’ – ⁴*

*Showers all who now LISTEN, who now are GIVEN VOICE,
With a stream of Love’s gifts.
Thus, the contemplative, the praying heart,
Can become a conduit for God’s bounty
... A chosen entry point for the Spirit
To be poured into the lives of ALL !*

1 Poem 776, Marian Valley Retreat, early October 2009, Day 3.

2 Eph 4:25

3 Cf Mt 19:27,29

4 Sg 2:14

Rejoice! ¹

Disciples of Jesus :

... **Re**-visit frequently the source of our true JOY :

Communing with Abba, Jesus, and Loyce

... As They live Their Life of JOY

Within us !

... **E**ucharist your heart daily, within Christ's holocaust

Of His heart to Abba ;

Gather only what is good in others,

Becoming Eucharist-for-them, in the Beloved.

... **J**oin in Jesus Ascended's heart-song of love to Abba

– For that neighbour, nearest-in-need :

Pray that their need becomes

A God-space of trust.

... **O**ffer all we've become – Christened spirits –

As a gathering, communing group, to Abba

–Hearts of warmth and welcome

For all the lowly of this world.

... **I**ntroduce these lowly ones to brother Jesus,

So they can feel at home in His Heart :

Fathered fondly by an attentive Abba,

En-Spirited, to join hands and hearts with others !

... Confess our communal confidence in Abba's embrace
–To witness to the overwhelmingly attractive power
Of His self-surrendering Love !
–To simply adore His Loveliness !

... En-Spirit all others with the Spirit we've received, IN Christ,
Lavish them with Abba's Spirit of homemaking ...
With the Gift of Family Union,
Rejoicing in Father-Son-and Spirit's Gift to Each Other !

Radical Conversion : Radiating Fellowship ¹

Abba, Jesus, Loyce, ²

Change me RADICALLY :

Let me RADIATE *Your Fellowship*

To all people ...

So together : one IN *Christ*

We are *Lover, Beloved and Love ...*

¹ Poem 778, Year 8 of Prayer Ministry, Clayfield Community, Brisbane, October 2006.

² Used by author, as a prayer at Eucharist.

Ears and Voice ¹

Jesus ²

Be the Ears and the Voice

Of the Beloved Son IN us;

Through us –

Do all that the Beloved does ...

BE all that the Beloved is ...

Within us.

1 Poem 779, Year 8 of Prayer Ministry, Clayfield Community, Brisbane, October 2006.

2 Used by the author, as a prayer at Eucharist.

