

Folio Forty-Five

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Poems 880 – 899

- 880 [Paschal Past, Present and Future](#)
- 881 [Swift Love](#)
- 882 [From Your Heart to Ours](#)
- 883 [The Gift of Silence](#)
- 884 [A Twofold Wondrous Transformation](#)
- 885 [Evangelizing the Down-hearted](#)
- 886 [We, the Young of Heart](#)
- 887 [Abba, Let Me Proclaim Your Beloved](#)
- 888 [Faith : Our Journey into Now](#)
- 889 [Face Uplifted on a Moonlit Night](#)
- 890 [Dancing in Dawn's Light](#)
- 891 [Three Life Challenges](#)
- 892 [I'm Yours](#) *
- 893 [Sharing Christ's Identity](#)
- 894 [God's Heart Beats within Ours !](#)
- 895 [The Climax of the Trinity's Paschal Prayer](#)
- 896 [Sunlit by Love's Rhythm](#)
- 897 [Love's Eyes](#)
- 898 [Eyes Meeting](#)
- 899 [Love Calls to Love](#)

**meant to be sung.*

Paschal Past, Present and Future ¹

*Within the Eternal Easter Generation,
Within that transcendent Paschal Day
The past, present, and future
Mutually INFUSE each other,
So, in experiencing the one
We rejoice in the other,
Albeit, in a hidden way,
... Veiled by time's trappings.*

*Thus, we no longer
Simply REMEMBER the Paschal PAST,
But live out, and relish its fruits, NOW.
We no longer
Simply envision the Paschal FUTURE,
But enjoy its unseen fulfilment, NOW.
And especially, WITHIN the Paschal PRESENT
... What is God-given, we receive with Eucharistic hearts
... What we receive, we ceaselessly offer back to God with sacrificial hearts.
Most often, through service to others.*

Swift Love ¹

Abba's overflowing Paschal love is so responsive,

So swift is His heart's compassion

–Speeding to our rescue, IN His Beloved !

So it ought to be, with us ...

The deeper our trust in Abba

– In Abba's swift love –

The swifter our hearts to COMMIT !

Disregarding all the pros and cons,

Our faith's response

Ought be that of a toddler –

Uplifting arms STRAIGHTWAY

To our unseen Daddy's call

– 'Come to Me, darling !'

... As we, in fact, embrace someone, sidelined by life.

From Your Heart to Ours ¹

O Beloved Jesus,
We drink Your Blood
Not just with our lips, but with our hearts, as well.
Only the Blood spilling from Your heart,
Quenches the thirst of Your Pilgrim People,
Who yearn for Your vitalizing Love
So, in effect, Your Blood flows
Directly, from Your Risen Heart to ours !

Again, O Beloved Jesus,
It is our spirits,
Not just our taste-buds
That hunger to be ONE
With Your BODY !
Yes ! Our famished spirits
Only really rest satisfied
When we participate in the feast of YOURSELF !
For You are life's TRUE FOOD for us wayfarers ! ²

¹ Poem 882, Eastertide Retreat-at-home, Woolloowin Community, Second Week 2008.

² Cf. Jn 6:32

The Gift of Silence ¹

*It is the heart's SILENCE
That gives birth to communion ;
And it is our intrusive thoughts, our clamouring emotions
... Especially, our jarring conscience
And not the incidents of routine responsibility –
That DISRUPTS this silence and communion.*

*Also, if we were to IMPOSE silence, between ourselves and God,
It is to avoid communication ;
Silence, however, RECEIVED as God's GIFT,
Engenders communion.*

*Because, in God,
'All that is received, is given' ...
This gift of God's silence deepens, when we GIVE our silence
To others.*

*If such, choose to enter this Mystery,
Their spirit is STILLED by ours.*

*Our trust in silence ... breathes quiet confidence into those,
Hovering on the brink of a giving love.*

*So, as they come to rest within God's own SERENE Spirit,
It is this Spirit of Silence, who enables ALL TO GAZE
Tranquilly, devotedly, delightedly,
Upon the Face
Of the Father of Peace ...*

A Twofold Wondrous Transformation ¹

For You, O God ... To be THE SAME

... To be DIFFERENT

... Even to be UNIQUE,

Is impossible !

—Because EACH admits of comparison.

In truth, You O God, simply ARE ...

Surpassing ALL comparisons,

INCOMPARABLE !

For You, O God ... To be LIKE US

... To be UNLIKE US

... Even to be, PERFECTLY US

Is impossible !

— Because, for us, You are WHOLLY TRANSCENDENT.

In truth, You O God, simply ARE ...

Surpassing anything we can express,

INEXPRESSIBLE !

However, because of a TWOFOLD WONDROUS TRANSFORMATION

— Firstly, the humanization of Divinity,

... Our God, we now know is MOST LIKE US

— The most deeply human of our race —

So that, in Jesus Risen's NEW HUMANITY,

We can gaze, with radiant clarity,

On God's Face ! Looking into God's Eyes !

Equally, we can now consume God's Flesh,

While experiencing human intimacy at its most profound !

– *Secondly, the Divinization of humanity,*

... We can utterly SURPASS DEATH, IN Christ Ascended !

We experience a humanity, Eternally empowered, IN Christ Ascended !

We experience God, raising God Embodied, to heaven !

We experience God, gifting God En-Spirited, to earth !

Evangelizing the Down-hearted ¹

*To evangelize the down-hearted,
To uplift them to God's compassion
Is to enlesh God's Tenderness and Sensitivity
Within their expectant hearts.*

*Through the grace given, "a full measure ... running over", ²
And through en-Spiriting their consciousness
... With gracious words flowing from our Eastered lips ...
These down-hearted ones turn trustingly to Jesus.
They take His outstretched hand,
As He leads them to their Emmaus
... To that COMMUNION OF HEARTS,
Where hearts are set aflame, with bright new hope ! ³*

¹ Poem 885, Eastertide Retreat-at-home, Woolloowin Community, Third Week 2008.

² Lk 6:38

³ Cf. Lk 24:32

We, the Young of Heart ¹

Loving, Dearest Abba,

IN Your Beloved, Jesus,

WE, THE YOUNG OF HEART :

– Of Australia and Oceania,

REJOICE to feel, so Eternally welcomed and privileged –

... As are all Your Children.

We ...

–Of East Asia,

REJOICE to feel, so individually unique and free

... As are all Your Children.

We ...

– Of South and West Asia,

REJOICE to feel, so wonderfully gifted with Your Divine dignity

... As are all Your Children.

We ...

–Of Europe,

REJOICE to feel, so truly one in fellowship with all

... As are all Your Children.

We ...

–Of Africa,

REJOICE to feel, so loved and confident

... As are all Your Children.

We ...

–Of Central and South America,

REJOICE to feel, so worthy and special

... As are all Your Children.

We ...

–Of Canada and the U.S.,

REJOICE to feel, so simple, trusting, and open

... As are all Your Children.

Abba, Let Me Proclaim Your Beloved ¹

– For Readers at Eucharist –

*Abba, let me proclaim Your Beloved
With a spirit overflowing with love ;
In doing so, let Your Spirit possess all my faculties
– Inspiring me to proclaim Our Beloved
With adoration, clarity and peace.*

*Abba, may Your Beloved's WHOLE loving Person
– Spirit, mind, heart, feelings, and body language –
Radiate into waiting hearts, open hearts,
As I proclaim His love for You !*

Faith : Our Journey into Now ¹

*Faith is CO-JOURNEYING with Jesus,
Living His life, heartbeat by heartbeat,
As He lived it
... A life, devotedly focussed, decision by decision,
On the Pass-over to His Beloved Abba !
... Living HIS RELATIONSHIP TO ABBA, breath by breath, with Him
– Not just by way of modelling it, imitating it,
But, with grace, by way of re-discovering and exploring it
... Lovingly, as He did.*

*In doing so, we claim
His human IDENTITY,
And crucially, His Eucharistic DESTINY
– As Abba gave it to Him,
And as HE chose to OWN IT !
In truth, our faith-life is not our own, but HIS !
His Paschal CONSCIOUSNESS is OURS !*

*Thus, as the Creative Spirit enfleshes Jesus' Divinity
Within OUR struggling humanity ...
In faith, we too are IN-CORPORATED
Into the Divinely-human WONDER
Of Jesus Risen !*

Our faith has us JOURNEY

Through Jesus' very own growth and development

–Ever growing in His single-hearted affection for Abba !

–Ever maturing in the wisdom of sacrificial loving !

Our faith has us enter Gethsemane's garden of crisis

Living out HIS heart's radical trusting

... Reversing, bit by bit, humanity's betrayal

In Paradise's garden, and in the unfolding human story.

Our faith has :

– Our hands, RIVETTED to His cross, by our sins,

Our lips, hoarsely ENTRUSTING our life into Abba's care,

Our heart, slashed open, and emptied of self,

... While being opened to the Spirit's entry !

Our faith has our spirits behold Abba's Easter Glory

Lighting our being from WITHIN :

... Divine Joy, sun-shining WITHIN us !

... Divine Life, thrilling, radiating, our humanity !

Our faith has us swept up :

Into the arms of Love !

Into the ecstasy of the Prodigal's return !

Into the Enrapture of Divine Fellowship

... Into the Father's most tender Embrace

... Into the Spirit-who-is-Peace

Breathing through our being !

Our faith has us – having breathed IN this Spirit –

Now breathing this Spirit FORTH into others,

Who CO-INDWELL us, IN Christ.

TOGETHER, we are swept up

Into the Fellowship of Love,

As ... Abba, Jesus and Loyce'²

Live Their Life within us,

Filling us with Their Joy !

Yet, this is not our journey's END,

But its Eternal NOW

... For all things are EVER-NEW in Christ

– IN Christ, who IS our journey, into NOW !

1 Poem 888, Marian Valley Retreat (May), Eastertide 2008, Day 1.

2 My familiar name for the Spirit who IS, at once, Love and Joy and Peace.

Face Uplifted on a Moonlight Night ¹

*In LOVING,
In contemplating the Divine WITHIN,
OUR FACES ...
Moonlit by Mary,
Sunlit by Jesus,
Uplifted in the Spirit,
Gaze
On the Glorious Face of Abba
Doting steadily on us ...
IN His Beloved Jesus Ascended !*

Dancing in Dawn's Light ¹

*My ascent of Marian Valley's exit drive
– Striding up into the sunrise –
Was an ascent into a Luminous experience,
An ascent into the dawning of the Spirit, WITHIN
– Played out, as the golden dawnlight slanted through the gum trees.*

*First, came the Spirit's OVERTURE :
The excited swirl and rush of a brisk wind
Whipping the tree tops ...
'Til they seemed to dance !*

*Then, cresting a steep rise in the road,
I braced – as the sun's golden brilliance, flashed full in my face !
Stunned, I breathed deeply of the dawn ...
My spirit soared !*

*I thrilled to the interplay ... the visual symphony
... Of the shimmering flashes of the gum leaves' sunlit gleam,
Of the mercurial jazz of branches in the breeze,
And of the scintillating sun-shafts in between !*

*Roused by an urge to JOIN IN ...
My spirit began to DANCE !
My heart supplied the beat !
– Both, in time, with my prancing feet !*

I danced WITH the sunlight !

I rejoiced in the dawn !

—HERE, a pirouette of praise !

—THERE, spinning with joy, NEW-BORN !

I whirled with the flashing rays

Of dawn's leaf-filtered light,

As it spliced the waving gum-tops,

Playing out spangled patterns of DELIGHT !

While these gyrating light-shafts

Criss-crossed an awakening earth,

My mind was spinning in wonder !

My heart rejoicing, in a re-birth !

*Then ... with the wind's subsidence ... I paused,
And as the sun's shadow-dance of light ... STILLED,*

I breathed deeply of the Spirit of the Dawning

... As I stood there in silence,

Eyes closed to the world, without,

Face uplifted to the Light, within ...

Suddenly,
My ears were prised open
By a chortle of bird-calls !
The peace of the Spirit-led COMMUNING faded.
Instead, my nostrils keened
To the spiced scent of eucalyptus,
As the sun's rising warmth drew it forth
... To fragrance the flush of dawn.

Truly, the Spirit's chameleon-presence
DELIGHTED in filling up my EVERY sense !
Within, my spirit-song could not contain itself
–My lips burst forth in song :
A hymn of praise ! Of delight in our Creator !
Of God's sheer goodness !
Of Love ... LOVING !

I danced again ... a slower, heartfelt dance of gratitude
Swaying, THANKFUL
... To be chosen to dance
The Spirit-Dance of Dawn !
... To be filled with Dawn's Light,
Letting it COLOUR my Easter Consciousness
–Of Love ALIVE in our world !
–Of the Ascent of our Humanity IN Christ !

Three Life Challenges ¹

These three life-challenges Jesus asks of us

– Of each one, and of us together :

Firstly, to love ALL others

As Jesus loved His disciples

Through and beyond death –

To love with His love,

That is ... TO ALLOW

Our All-Enabling Saviour, Jesus,

To love others, THROUGH us !

Secondly, to gather only THE GOOD ...

In those we ‘target’,

And in those who ‘target’ us,

Putting any ill-will aside

So as to be Eucharist, for them,

Praying for CONVERSION OF HEART

... Ours, and theirs !

*Thirdly, to daily bear our cross
Especially our internal resistance
To all Abba desires of us –
EVEN to accepting our need
To shoulder Calvary's heaviest burden
Of DYING ...
Dying, for instance, to a most cherished dream of ours,
Or dying to OUR WAY of relating to Abba.*

I'm Yours ¹ *

Verse 1. *I'm Yours, I'm Yours, Dear Abba*
I'm Yours, Your own loved one !
I'm Yours : I'm Your beloved –
You treat me like Your Son !
I'm Yours, I'm Yours – So take me :
And love me as Your own
... As hearts beat now as one !

REFRAIN: *Glory ! Glory ! Alleluia !*
Glory ! Glory ! Alleluia !
Glory ! Glory ! Alleluia !
... As hearts beat now as one !

Verse 2 . *We're Yours, We're Yours, for always !*
We're Yours, through all our years,
We're Yours, We're Yours – in Your way
And in Eternity !
We're Yours, We're Yours , TOGETHER
In heartfelt unity ...
One Love : one Family !

REFRAIN: *Glory ! Glory ! Alleluia !*
Glory ! Glory ! Alleluia !
Glory ! Glory ! Alleluia !
... One Love : one Family !

1 Poem 892, Marian Valley Retreat (May), Eastertide 2008, Day 3.

*Meant to be sung. To the tune: The Battle Hymn of the Republic.

Sharing Christ's Identity ¹

*To be Fathered, IN Christ,
Is to have His Spirit of Identity
Transfigure our being, from WITHIN,
IDENTIFYING us with Christ.
Thus, Jesus Risen
Now EN-PERSONS who we are :
... The Wonder of Abba !
... The singular focus of Abba's Love !
Our SELF we surrender : Christ's SELF encompasses ours
—The very SELF He possesses, with Abba, in the Spirit !*

*We no longer BELONG to ourselves :
Christ IS who WE ARE !
Our “we” becomes ONE in His “I”
So, as “members one of another”, ²
IN Christ, “we” proclaim
‘I give up all who I AM to Abba ...’*

More ! We experience NOW
... As this Daystar rises in our hearts ... ³
The One who IS TO COME.
Grace thus anticipates Glory ...
So that our experience of the Spirit of Abba,
Is always, now, an EN-PERSONED experience
– An experience of being RAISED, IN and WITH Christ.
In this way, as our bodies, IN HIS, are gathered within Abba's Ascensional Embrace,
The self-focussing energies once COMPULSING them,
Release boundless energy in a regenerative outpouring .
This cascade of Risen Life, within,
Brings ALL our relating
Into a radiant single, focus :
The face of God smiling, IN Christ, upon us
... A smile contoured in the very flesh of our earth!

1 Poem 893, Eastertide Retreat-at-home, Woollowin Community, Ascension Sunday 2008.

2 Eph 4:25

3 Cf Lk 1:78

God's Heart Beats Within Ours ¹

Abba's JOY, Abba's GLORY

Is

Jesus Ascended :

His Self-Image !

His Self-Revelation !

His Self-Realization !

Jesus' Ascended JOY ... His GLORY

Is

Abba :

His very being's

Source !

Sustenance !

Destiny !

The Spirit

Is

THE KISS

Of Abba and Jesus Ascended :

Their Gift to Each Other !

Their Mutuality !

Their Fellowship !

In the Spirit

They both come ALIVE !

And come to rest.

The Spirit

Is Their Vitality !

Their Unity ...

And their Peace.

Thus, while the singular focus of Abba's love

Is the beating heart of His Beloved,

Their Spirit-indwelling-Them

Is the Divine Pulse of Life within Them !

The Climax of the Trinity's Paschal Prayer ¹

All prayer holograms the Eucharist
–Continuously replicating, at every level,
The Trinity's Paschal Climax of Prayer
... Of Communing in Fellowship ...
– Namely, Abba's Embrace of Jesus Ascended in the Spirit !
In this Moment,
Humanity is uplifted to the Embrace of the Divine !
Our cosmic-earthly reality is enfolded within the Divine
... Within the Divine, IN the Person of Christ !
... Within the encompassing Embrace of Abba !
All suffused with the Spirit !
– As Jesus Ascended and Abba gift Each Other,
With the Eternal Kiss of the Spirit !

Such are the RESONANCES, of OUR every graced prayer !
Every such prayer
Is incorporated into that Ascension Moment –
Where openness of heart becomes COMMUNION !
Where our humanity is Divinely Embraced !
Where self-surrender becomes Fellowship !

Sunlit by Love's Rhythms ¹

(TWIN POEMS ON DEATH : HERE, WHILE DYING) ²

Resting in simplicity

In one's own dark night,

The spirit, alive with faith –

... Lets darkness gestate, GENTLY

Within the womb of waiting,

'Til the promised Light buds within.

... Lets silence pregnate, PRAYERFULLY

'Til Abba's anointed time ³

Clarions forth His Word of loving welcome.

... Lets solitude fructate on the Vine, EXPECTANTLY

Sunlit by Love's rhythms,

'Til it bears fruit ...

On our entry into deepest Fellowship !

1 Poem 896, Year 10 of Prayer Ministry, Woolloowin Community, Corpus Christi 2008.

2 The 'dying' need not just be physical, but any of our significant 'DYINGS'.

3 "Anointed" indicates the special Presence of God's Spirit.

Love's Eyes ¹

(TWIN POEMS ON DEATH : HERE, IN THE MOMENT OF DEATH) ²

Soft, with a Father's welcome, are Love's eyes ...

Tenderly, warmly inviting ...

Alive with excitement and joy !

The eyes of Love

—Fully revealing Love's heart —

Are truly eyes that HEARTEN us :

Eyes that resurrect Life

In those whose hearts,

Surrender to Love.

Surrendered hearts SEE beyond death,

Beyond the Passover of one's spirit,

To Love BECKONING us, IN His own Beloved,

To open our hearts totally to the Beloved's Life,

To gaze with the Beloved's own gaze,

Into Love's eyes ...

The eyes of Love, up close

— Abba's very own love-lit eyes —

Eternally, tenderly, delightedly BE-HOLD us

As the Beloved of His Heart !

1 Poem 897, Year 10 of Prayer Ministry, Woolloowin Community, Corpus Christi 2008.

2 Here 'death' can be mean 'total surrender', as in 'the death' of the self.

Eyes Meeting ¹

Abba, we gaze into Your eye

Only from within Your embrace

Indeed, we gaze into the depths of Your love,

Only with the eyes of Your Beloved,

... Wed to You in the Eternal Kiss of Love

– As eyes meet, lips kiss, and hearts surrender

... As the Spirit suffuses ALL .

So WE, in Christ,

– Loved and Loving Child

Of a Father's tender Love –

Come ALIVE together ...

For, as Their Eyes meet,

All is exhilaration, all is communion .

Their uniting Eyes ...

Generate Fellowship

Celebrate Fellowship

Rest content, in Fellowship.

1 Poem 898, Annual Retreat, Lawson Blue Mountains, June 2008, Day 1.

NOTE: The Retreat was with Sister Yvonne Parker, as my Spiritual Director.

Love Calls to Love ¹

While the Old Covenant's Temple pilgrim could proclaim,

"I am on my way to the Wonderful Tent" ²

... For us,

–Children of "the New Covenant in Christ's blood" – ³

This Tent of Wonder

–Wherein God now woos our humanity –

Is Christ Himself!

HE is that Tent "pitched among us", as OUR nearest neighbour! ⁴

And, simultaneously, "closest to the Father's heart"! ⁵

Within this wondrous dwelling,

God pours forth His love for us,

Heart to heart

IN Christ.

Here, we experience the profoundest intimacy with Abba,

Such that, IN Christ, "Deep calls to Deep" ⁶

Within the Trinity

–As a loving God CALLS to God, IN God!

Truly, the Spirit of Love sounding forth
From the depths of Abba's heart,
RE-ECHOES *deep within the depths of His Beloved*
... And, thus, within all who ARE IN Christ !
Indeed, as Abba's Love sets His Son's heart, and ours, RESONATING
... The Beloved's Love sets Abba's heart RESONATING in response
– In a Paschal rhythm, resounding with Life !

Echoes of this Easter Spirit-Song
Call Christ's microscopic D.N.A. molecules
Into LIFE
– Dancing, with elation, to the Spirit-Music,
And, within His Rising Person,
Cause our own to quicken ...
With the enabling Life of Abba's Son's REVITALIZED HUMANITY !

1 Poem 899, Annual Retreat, Lawson Blue Mountains, June 2008, Day 2.

2 Ps 42:4 (J.B.) 3 Lk 22:20 4 Jn 1:14 5 Jn 1:18 6 Ps 42:7 (J.B.)

