

Folio Sixty-Two

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Where Mary Leads, We Follow ¹

“Rejoice ! O Highly favoured one !” ²

In hearing these very first words of Abba’s Good News,

Addressed to her

... Coupled with, ‘You are to carry God within you’, ³

Mary’s faith-filled heart, nodded gently

... ‘As God carries me.’ ⁴

Mary’s ‘Yes’ to Abba’s Desire for humanity,

Placed her whole life, and OURS,

Wholly within Abba’s wondrous plan ...

And thus opened humanity’s door TO GOD’S HEART.

Jesus is that door ...

Mary is the handle of the door .

While Mary’s ‘Yes’ allowed God’s Presence

To be shared with ALL humanity

We, unlike Mary, have a constant tendency

To conceive of God’s Presence, as ‘just for me’,

Or, marginally better, as ‘only for our group’ !

But, through grace, we too can share Mary’s full faith-experience :

Our “Yes’ can enable Jesus’ entry into many lives

... Thus allowing Abba, to en-Spirit us !

By replicating Mary’s ‘Yes’, we can become the means

For Jesus’ entry into others’ lives

... Leaving none uninvited !

*Mary not only received the Word within her faith-consciousness,
But within her own flesh
— So her flesh itself, enfolds the Essence of the Divine !
As an amplifier of this, she herself ... most humbly, and without words ...
Becomes a proclamation of her Son's Mission WITHIN humanity !
Jesus' mission which Mary proclaims, reaches its climax in BOTH
... Abba's Embrace of Jesus' New Humanity, in His Ascension,
... And in His RECEPTIVITY TO, and OUTPOURING OF, the Spirit, for us
— Enabling the Divine, within His humanity, to WONDROUSLY RESONATE AS ONE !
Mary's grace as Mother of this Paschal Christ
Is to be the first to provide this RESONANCE
—Within the 'sounding-board' of her own person.
As with most things, ours it is to follow after Mary ...*

1 Poem 1220, Year 16 of Prayer Ministry, Wooloowin Community, Brisbane, August 2014.

2 Lk 1:28

3 Cf. Lk 1:31

4 Cf. 1:49

Five Birds in a Rainforest ¹

I was on a self-directed Retreat at Binna Burra in South East Queensland.

Prompted, to 'pray my way', through Lamington's rainforest

... To its stunning Coomera Falls,

I almost expected 'Loyce', my Companion Spirit, ²

To be revealed as a forest dove

... Resplendently white ...

From the canopy above !

But, quite unexpectedly, in passing through a patch of stillness,

Where footfall, after footfall,

Was absorbed softly by the damp leaf litter,

And where I could barely sense my own quiet breathing

... The smallest of birds,

A blur of rusty brown,

Flitted crosswise through the mottled camouflage of bushes

— Barely three metres in front of me —

All, in utter silence, a presence UNHEARD.

It flitted and glided a passage 'into my consciousness',

And, discernible only to my inner eye,

Gained entry, it seemed, to my spirit !

*As a response to its presence, within,
I chose to FOCUS MY SENSES
For the rest of the walk
... To watch, to wait, to listen,
... To attend to this unexpected 'Spirit-guest'.*

*Then, two small palm-treed creeks further on ...
Two doves, singly, broke cover in a unmissable, clamorous duel of sound
— Both, totally hidden to my sight —
And then departed, in a flurry of wing-flapping bravado ...
Each signing off with an exultant trill cascade,
As each retreated into the forest-tops.
Thus, my second 'Spirit-guest', was a presence UNSEEN.*

*A bushed hour later, on my return journey from the awesome Coomera Falls,
... Throwing off disguises of both soundlessness and sightlessness ...
The Spirit-guest chose to COMPANION me, chirping all the while.
Right next to the track, for a truly surprising 80 metres of so
My companion was a small bright orange bird.
It flitted, darted, and glided ... in a dazzling adrenalized dance routine.
What a compliment ! I was stunned !
But then — the Dancer was gone
... What a GUEST !*

*Lastly came the climactic Spirit-guest ...
In a lushly layered, understorey patch of rainforest,
I heard some domestic hen-like squeaks ;
And then I saw, seconds later, splendid in its feathered glory,
A lyre-bird cock, a rainbow tailored dandy,
With arching tail feathers held high !
It pranced across the track, still pecking here and there.
Then he saw me !
With a flourishing leap or two
... As the filtered shafts of sunlight lit up his rainbow iridescence ...
He exited, left !*

*Having held my breath, I released it ... in amazement !
It was my only lyre-bird sighting in 45 years of rainforest meanderings.*

*Life in the Spirit
Is truly FULL of graced surprises !
The Spirit's is a chameleon Presence
... Midst the ordinary, and the routine
... Entering right into our world,
Yet, pointedly inviting us WITHIN,
To a glorious Fellowship ... unseen and unheard .*

1 Poem 1221, Marian Valley monthly retreat, 2 September 2014. The second day of Spring.

2 ' Loyce' is the author's second person name, for the Spirit (Loy - cee) Formed from the Spirit's Paschal gifts of LOVE
JOY PEACE.

Transcending History, IN Christ ¹

*Through being in-corporated into the Paschal Christ,
“Man is not COMPLETELY historical” ²
... Because, those whom the Spirit transforms THUS,
Are able to TRANSCEND HISTORY, in Christ .
They can ... HERE AND NOW
Become Jesus Ascended’s Face, Hand and Loving Heart,
With Him in the Eternal Moment ... Open to any point of TIME !
The poetry of our ancient, and continuing, human yearning
... To be taken up into the Divine ...
Becomes the loving REALITY ... for these lives, lived IN Christ !*

*Indeed, within Christ’s TRANSHISTORICAL Paschal Person,
Christ gives “continuity to our being , and communing between souls”. ³
Thus, through His Paschal grace, we are able to transcend our very selves,
Becoming “Members, one of another”, ⁴
CO-INDWELLING each other’s spirits, IN Christ !
Indeed, HERE AND NOW, we can already relate-as-spirits in this way .*

*On the Last Day, all RESURRECTED PERSONS,
Wholly embodied with a “ spiritual body”, ⁵
Will co-indwell each other, IN Christ Risen and Ascended,
In a new BODILY way !
Companioned by Abba, Jesus Ascended, and Their One-ing Spirit,
These share in THEIR Wondrous Presence
... Living a life of boundlessness, IN Christ
— Not only in Spirit, but in BODY !*

1 Poem 1222, Marian Valley monthly Retreat, September 2014.

2 Benedict xvi, Osservatorio Romano, 15 March 2006.

3 IBID

4 Eph 4:25 (N.R.S.V.)

5 1 Cor 15:44

Graced Awareness of Our Vulnerability ¹

*To accept our vulnerability,
Is to en flesh our memories
With a mindfulness of our DEEP DEPENDENCY
... Both on God's unfailing initiative in our every choice of our heart
... And on the essential role of OTHERS in integrating our lives .*

*Such a graced awareness of our vulnerability
Allows us to readily call to mind —
The PATTERN of our weaknesses
The PATTERN of our response to temptation,
And the CERTAINTY of God's grace ...
In redeeming, and thus CHRISTENING, these patterns .*

*Our God is unfailingly, boundlessly GOOD,
And Abba and Jesus' One-ing Spirit
Will surely put the pieces of our lives
Together in a NEW PATTERN,
That is wondrously integrating and fruitful
For us, IN Christ Jesus .*

Deep Echoes of Abba's Love ¹

*For any child of Abba, our journey into deeper freedom
Moves from delight in His Presence, in 'ordinary' times,
To a maturer AWE, as we companion Jesus on His Way of the Cross ...
And then, to various expressions of communal joy,
As we personally experience the wonders of Jesus' Paschal Mystery .*

*In all of this, it is Abba
Who initiates every turn of the journey
— Prompting and sustaining His children
With the GRACE of the Spirit of Mystery :
“Listen children, to your Father's words.
Be ATTENTIVE that you may gain IN-SIGHT
... Keep my words, WITHIN YOU HEART.” ²*

*Indeed, it is Abba's 'hesed', His 'loving-kindness,'
That is central to His Children's Paschal pilgrimage ...
As His promises of love become our reality, and His faithfulness centers our lives.
Such open affection from a loving Father
Draws forth DEEP ECHOES OF LOVE from us, His Children :
O Abba, “I have sought You, with all my heart
... I treasure Your promises with my heart”. ³*

*Within us, there rises a deeper longing ... to IMITATE Abba's own Beloved Child,
“Open our hearts,” Abba, “to listen to the words of Your Son”. ⁴*

*This family 'belongingness', this desire to become one with Jesus,
Allows the Spirit to INTEGRATE our lives
... Giving rise to a Paschal JOY
That is the seal of such en-Spirited lives :
"His word is our delight. He is the joy of our hearts !"* ⁵

1 Poem 1224, Blue Mountains Retreat (with Sister Yvonne Parker), early October 2014, Day 1.

2 Prov 4:1, 21 (N.R.S.V.)

3 Grail -Ps 119:10, 11

4 Cf Acts 16:14

5 Cf Jer 15:16

As Little As Little Children ¹

In saying to us,
“The way you think, is not God’s way, but man’s”, ²
Jesus makes clear
That His choices are NOT those of the world,
And that His desire for us
Is that we too “do not BELONG to the world”.³
In assuring us, “My choice withdrew you from the world”,⁴
He asks us to treasure His values, and not conform to the world’s
— “To be IN this world, but not OF it”.⁵
In effect, He asks us to live in this world,
Within a RELATIONSHIP ...
Co-experiencing HIS OWN relationship to His Abba God!

So, when this closest of brothers
Prays to Abba ...
“It is to the LITTLE ONES ... You have revealed the mysteries of the kingdom”,⁶
The question arises within us,
‘Are we among these ‘little ones’?’
Then, there is St. Paul’s wisdom,
That “those whom the world thinks common and contemptible,
Are the ones that GOD HAS CHOSEN”.⁷
This ASSURES all those of us
... Who are marginalized, or of little account,
... Who are dismissed as boring, or irrelevant,
... Or who are just plain weak, lost, or misguided
—That, maybe, we are ‘a little one’!

... Just like Jesus, who Himself was sidelined and rejected !

Yet, Jesus does not want us ' to give in'

To being of little account in an unchangeable future.

No ! He "solemnly" challenges us —

"Unless you CHANGE,

And become like little children,

You will NEVER enter the kingdom of heaven !" ⁸

He wants us to work at — TO CHOOSE — being ' little'

... To choose the dependency and simplicity of a child, for a purpose .

Most especially, such a life-change

Is not to be seen as humbling, or penitential,

But as a NEW way of relating

— Something to be thankful for, to rejoice in

... A graced life-choice !

So Jesus challenges us

"To make myself, as little as this little child" ⁹

— To truly LOVE being of little consequence in the world's eyes !

The hidden graces, within this choice,

Will resonate throughout our lives :

To choose to "empty" ourselves, to be ' a nothing' in this world, ¹⁰

Leaves no barriers between God and ourselves

... Just as St. Paul urges -

'NOTHING ... can ever come between us and God's love !' ¹¹

Again, our choice to accept our weaknesses

— And thus, our NEED of God —

"Makes it clear,"

Again, as St. Paul exclaims,

"That such an overwhelming power, comes from God,

And NOT from us !” ¹²

So what is there left of our ‘self’ ?

With the Psalmist and St. Therese of Lisieux, we answer,

“Enough for me to keep myself tranquil and quiet,

Like a child, in its mother’s arms”. ¹³

With God’s grace, CHOSEN DEPENDENCY becomes our way of life

... While ‘doing it my way’ becomes hollow and meaningless .

Wondrously, we become A RECEPTIVITY to the God of utter love

... A graced RECEPTIVITY to the God-who-gives all !

Indeed, Jesus Himself

Avails of our littleness, our emptiness, and our nothingness

To re-incarnate Himself in us

— As “our virtue, our holiness, and our freedom,”

And in an especial way, as “our wisdom”. ¹⁴

As our WISDOM,

Jesus Ascended is “by the side” of our Abba God ¹⁵

As “a skilled artisan” ¹⁶

— Transforming our Paschal spirits, and our communities of love

— Thus “delighting Abba day after day”,

... And, like ‘a little one’ Himself ...

“Ever at play in Abba’s presence,

At play, everywhere in His world”, ¹⁷

And, in the most fraternal, sisterly way

“Delighting in the human race”. ¹⁸

1 Poem 1225, Blue Mountains Retreat, early October 2014, Day 2.

2 J.B.,Mt 16:23 3 J.B.,Jn 15:19 4 IBID. 5 Church axiom 6 Missal text of Mt 11:25 7 J.B., 1Cor 1:28

8 J.B., Mt 18:3 9 J.B., Mt 18:4 10 J.B., Phil 2:7 11 J.B., Rom 8:39 12 J.B., 2Cor 4:7 13 J.B.,Ps 131:2

14 J.B.,1Cor 1:30 15 J.B.,Prov 8:30 16 I.B., Prov 8:30 17 J.B.,Prov 8:30, 31 18 N.R.S.V. Prov 8:31

Embraced by God ¹

CENTERING ...

The lives of all child-like 'little ones',

Is the Embrace of God.

The lives of all children, worldwide,

Are CENTERED

By the embrace of their parents,

Who, effectively, are God for them.

Every child 'homes in on' this embrace ...

When hurt or disappointed or frightened or shocked or rebuffed

— As much as they do, when expressing ...

Their love or surprise, their successes or joys, or their sense of belonging.

The embrace is the FOCUS of all these 'homecomings'.

It has the qualities, variously ...

Of comfort, reward, safety, immediacy, valuing and togetherness,

And, of course, oneness and love.

Exactly thus,

Is God's Embrace of His adult 'little ones'!

Abba's Embrace

Was, for the child Jesus, the surpassing expression

Of Mary's and Joseph's loved-filled hugs ;

And is for us, our Father's fond delight

... In bouncing us on His lap of joy, ²

And drawing us, close against His cheek, ³

To His overflowing heart .

*This bond is so close that He has drawn us, to Himself,
IN the very PERSON of His Ascended Beloved
— The one, “who is nearest to the Father’s heart”!* ⁴

*This totally encompassing love of Abba
Is like that of the parent eagle :
“I will cover you with my feathers,
And you will find a home within my wings”.* ⁵

*Jesus’ Embrace
Is that of a caring shepherd
“Gathering us lambs, His ‘little ones’, in His arms,
Holding us close to His breast”.* ⁶
*But, surpassingly,
It is the Embrace of the most beautiful of BROTHERS.
Thrilled, by the empowering intimacy, that is His fraternal gift to us,*

*We rapturously exclaim —
“Who is this Blessed One, blooming like the dawn,
Radiant as the moon, pure as the fire of the sun ?”* ⁷

*In His Embrace, Jesus whispers to us
“I am jealous for your love ;
My heart burns for you, like the fire of God !
No water could ever put out this fire of my love ;
No torrent could wash it away !”* ⁸

*And then, tingling our ear with His breath,
He murmurs —
“You who LOVE, will be loved by my Abba
And I too, will love you, and reveal my glory to you”.* ⁹

The Embrace of the Spirit
Is not distinct from that of Abba and Jesus
—For He IS Their Embrace of us :
He IS Their CLOSENESS ! He IS Their ENCOMPASSING !
He IS Their GLORY !
—The Glory that transcends all-who-we-are
With all-who-THEY-are !
He is Their One Love
... Drawing us into their Circle of Fellowship !
He IS the Exhilaration we experience
In Their Dance of Love !

1 Poem 1226, Blue Mountains Retreat, early October 2014, Day 3.

2 Cf Is 66:12 J.B. 3 Cf Hos 11:4 J.B. 4 J.B. Jn 1:18 5 Cf Ps 91:4 J.B. 6 J.B. Is 40:11 7 I.B. Song 6:10

8 I.B. Song 6:10 9 I.B. Jn 14:21

Hearts, Breathing the Spirit of Love ¹

*Every God-seeking heart
Provides a heart-space, an open-ended time,
Where and when, all graced spirits meet
... Where, to be in-gathered IN CHRIST,
Is to be indwelt by, and to indwell, every other, there .
This mutual heart-space
Is a sacred gathering place
— None other, than the heart, the spirit of the Ascended Jesus !*

*Geographical origin, age, status, history, gender,
Offer no barrier —
Christ's heart-space is universally accessible
To all graced hearts ;
It is every ADOPTEE'S graced honour
... Across time, and space, and personality !*

*This Divinely human heart-space
Is animated by the SACRED RHYTHM
Of the Breath of God
... A Breath received ... a Breath given .*

*Each open-hearted spirit, IN CHRIST,
Is en-Spirited with the Breath of Love
... Wonderfully infused-into-them, THROUGH other graced spirits !
The privileged spirit opens wholly TO BE LOVED,
And thus, is READIED to receive the SPIRIT .*

*From a stilled heart, filled with peace,
This open-hearted spirit,
Opening wholly TO LOVE,
Breathes the Spirit of Love, IN ...
... Then OUT, into other graced spirits
... Thus readying THEM to give, and to love .*

*What a wondrous rhythm
Is this en-Spirited Breathing !
— Wedding together
The Divinely human with the humanly Divine
The feminine with the masculine
The mystical with the prophetic
Grace with effort
Stillness with engagement
Solitude with fellowship,
And, 'being loved' with ardently 'loving'
... Breathing in ... Breathing out .*

Solitude and Fellowship ¹

Graced solitude is a mystery, and graced fellowship in a mystery

— In the very same way ...

That each person is a mystery, and the Church enshrines mystery .

The dignity of sacred fellowship

Is founded on the incomparable dignity of each human person

... Created in the IMAGE of Christ

... ELEVATED, through the glory of grace, into HIS LIKENESS,

... And embraced as an adopted member of the Trinity, IN Christ .

Paradoxically, it is this graced fellowship

— For many, a Churched fellowship —

That both enhances, and FULFILS, the human person's dignity

... Incomparably transforming, not only our dignity,

But our very IDENTITY

— Divinizing us,

Drawing the “I” of human identity

Into the “We” of Divine identity !

So it is, also ...

With graced SOLITUDE and graced fellowship :

While such solitude CENTERS fellowship,

This fellowship, itself, ENHANCES and FULFILLS

The solitude of all God-seekers !

Moreover, while this solitude offers us

The Divinely personal INTIMACY of Christ,

Graced fellowship, for its part, reveals

That such intimacy is profoundly Trinitarian

— One with the Divine FELLOWSHIP OF LOVE —

And humanly, one with all those graced spirits,

Who mutually share Christ's heart-space with us !

When , in solitude, Abba whispers love to us,

The resonances touch ALL those whose heart-space we share

... Mysteriously ... and without exception.

Also, when a graced community seeks fellowship together,

The resonances uplift ALL God-seeking hearts

... Mysteriously ... without exception !

Unfortunately, UNGRACED solitude, in a wilderness setting,

Can be-wilder, deepen disconnection and morph into loneliness ;

Contrari-wise, GRACED solitude, in such a wilderness,

Can enhance our spiritual focus, deepen our relationships,

And intensify our experience of graced fellowship .

*Indeed, to journey into sacred solitude,
Is to carry 'YOUR people' in your heart
—To carry ALL God's People within,
 To reverence them one-to-one,
 And to cherish them anew, together
—All, IN the heart of the Paschal Jesus !*

*Jesus invites you to 'Come within',
 So as to make love to you there :
To reveal His heart's desires for you-with-others,
 To reveal to you, your own community name
 ... Inscribed on His heart .
There too, He lets you listen to the Spirit
 Sounding this community name,
 Within Christ Jesus' heart-space
 ... To Abba's delight and joy !*

Peace Needs Reconciliation ¹

*We experience 'Christ's peace' ...
Not, simply, when "I have STILLED and quieted my soul,
Like a weaned child, on its mother's breast."* ²
*Nor, simply, through quiet mysticism, or tranquil contemplation,
But by wholly encompassing
That "reconciliation-of-all-things ... earthly and heavenly",* ³
*Which Jesus offered to His loving Abba
—"By making peace through the BLOOD OF HIS CROSS!"* ⁴

*To be such a reconciler
—To possess such peace, "God's own peace"* ⁵
*Is to be "IN Christ Jesus",
... Sacrificing ALL to Abba .
It is to continually, totally envelop, within one's spirit,
The goodness in ALL people, ALL living things, ALL reality ;
And to banish ALL that is divisive, self-centering, and based on force
... In a word, to banish ALL that is UN-CHRISTLIKE .
Such wondrous, all inclusive Paschal peace,
Draws all to fulfilment,
To the fullness of that authentic shared humanity,
... Within the heart-space of the Ascended Jesus !*

Within this heart-space,
—*Midst the swirling divisive currents of a seductive worldliness —*
This Christ-peace provides a wonderful buffer,
“Like a child in its mother’s arm” ⁷
Such that, in deep trust, we “do not worry about anything” ⁸
—*Knowing “ALL is held, within the CIRCLE OF HEAVEN”!* ⁹

Then, out of this Paschal heart-space,
We can “give thanks for ALL circumstances” ¹⁰
No matter how crucifying
—*Because, THIS PEACE OF GOD “surpasses all understanding”,* ¹¹
And “fills our minds”... ¹²
With “ALL that is true, ALL that is honest and pure,
And ALL that is worthy of praise”. ¹³

It is only then,
Cossetted within the tenderness of Jesus’ Paschal heart,
That St. Paul’s blessing, “The GOD of Peace be with you”, ¹⁴
Comes to fruition ;
And only then, that we can find peace ...
Within quiet mysticism and tranquil contemplation !
—*And “rely on Yahweh ... like a child”.* ¹⁵

1 Poem 1229, Blue Mountains Retreat, early October 2014, Day 6.

2 Ps 131:2 3 N.R.S.V. Col 1:20 4 IBID 5 I.B. Phil 4:7 6 IBID 7 I.B. Ps 131:2 8 N.R.S.V. Phil 4:6

9 Missal Trans. Esth 4:17 10 I.B. Phil 4:6 11 N.R.S.V. Phil 4:7 12 J.B. Phil 4:8 13 I.B. Phil 4:8 14 J.B. Phil 4:9

15 I.B. Ps 131:3

Love, Ever New ¹

Human love has two faces.

Firstly, based as it is, on BEING ATTRACTED BY

... Or BEING DRAWN TO ... the other,

Love becomes dependent on the other.

And, for love to take root,

This dependency needs to be both CHOSEN and MUTUAL.

Then, if love is to bloom and bear fruit,

Each person needs to RENEW

Their attractiveness, continually.

Thus, the first face of love

Is the need for each

To be in need of each other .

The second face of love

Is a need to have THE OTHER

Grow and flourish as a person,

For the other to become an ever more authentic, giving human being

... To become and ever more integrated and whole person.

Ultimately, this is a call, for both,

To be mutually SELF-SACRIFICING

— To actively, at times, enable the other's GROWTH TO TAKE PRECEDENT.

This self-sacrificing truly bears fruit ... when being offered, not just for the other,

But for many others, and then ... for ALL others !

*Knowingly, or unknowingly,
All human love is ENABLED by the Eternal Fellowship of Love
... Sustaining all who love, IN Christ.
This Paschal love of Jesus, overflows in our lives
In an “ETERNAL COVENANT” of love ²
— Which, being Eternal, is EVER NEW !
This is the marvel of ALL human love :
While even un-graced human love, mysteriously SUGGESTS the Eternal
... Revealing an unfocussed, or ‘clouded’ Face of Love ...
Graced love is wonderfully ASSURED of the Presence of the Eternal
— Beholding in the face of the OTHER,
The emerging RADIAN Face of the Risen Jesus
... Who makes all things new !*

*Thus Jesus’ radiantly earthen eyes of Love
Invite both parties to live their ever new life of love, WITHIN HIS .
If we, like them, accept His invitation
We “become an altogether NEW creature, in Him” ³
— In the One who, through His utter sacrificial love,
Was able “to create, in Himself, ONE NEW HUMANITY”. ⁴
This Jesus, in proclaiming “I make ALL things new”, ⁵
Transforms, and ever renews, human LOVE
— Creating a whole community “with a new heart ... and new spirit”. ⁶*

*Indeed, so enamoured is Jesus of our human capacity to love,
That He elevates it, to the CENTERING REALITY,
Of His “ONE NEW HUMANITY”,⁷
Which He offers to share with us :
“Make your home in me, AS I make mine in yours”.⁸
St. Paul eagerly adds “Let your behaviour change
Modelled by your NEW mind” ... that of Christ.⁹
Indeed, St. Paul exults
“Becoming a NEW creation, is EVERYTHING !”¹⁰
... “A priceless glory !”¹¹*

1 Poem 1230, Blue Mountains Retreat, early October 2014, Day 7.

2 Eucharistic Consecration 3 J.B. Gal 6:15 4 N.R.S.V. Eph 2:15 5 J.B. Rev 21:5 6 J.B. Ez 36:26

7 N.R.S.V. Eph 2:15 8 J.B. Jn 15:4 9 J.B. Rom 12:2 10 N.R.S.V. 2Cor 5:17 11 N.A.B. Col 1:28

Good People, Evil People ¹

Open to view, goodness is its own reward ...
Simplifying life by integrating God's many gifts.
A good life mirrors the goodness of Jesus' key relationship to Abba
... His human heart wholly opening to ABBA'S DIVINE GOODNESS .

Contrare-wise, in preferring secrecy, evil is its own punishment ...
Rendering life disordered, and complex
— Contorting relationships, spawning divisiveness
... Being uncomfortable with Christ's presence, in any form .
Indeed, people of arrogance, of greed, of lust, turn into what they hate,
And into what Christ opposes — causing them deep confusion,
And LOSS OF DIRECTION in life .

When a person is gifted with goodness, at whatever age,
They discern, and 'time' their own contributions, to ALL their relationships,
So as to enhance all
... Consciously prioritizing equality and inclusiveness .

At all times, the good person takes care
To INTEGRATE their own and others' INNER and OUTER lives .
All such good people REVERENCE the primacy of Divine grace,
In all their decisions and activities .

Integrating Head and Heart ¹

*As our spirits equivocate
Over head OR heart spirituality,
Pray that,
As the spirit's wisdom
... Shapes our consciousness
... And primes our heart's energy,
True peace could be ours
— Through a process of INTEGRATING both .*

*We'd need to be OPENED
To the grace and graciousness
Of always moving beyond
'Rationalizing our reality'
... To PERSONALIZING it .*

*This would entail letting our hearts subsume
All the best our heads offer .
In this way, we'd be empowered
To give loving thoughtful expression
To the deep movements of our spirits
... Through CREATIVE reasoning .
Also, in our partnership, with all, in Creation,
We'd need to always move beyond
Continually forging connections with all
... To TRANSCENDING all these relationships !*

THIS TRANSCENDENCE, we need to experience

— *Both, HUMANLY,*

By becoming, evermore,

The consciousness, and loving heart ...

FOR all Creation ;

— *And DIVINELY,*

By being drawn into the Fellowship of Love

... Sharing THEIR consciousness of Creation

... Loving it, Divinely, WITH THEM

— *Thus, always acting, as God acts,*

IN Christ .

And thus in Him,

We can INCARNATE, lovingly,

All that is of this world

WITHIN the Divine !

Within Mystery !

Mary, Accompany Us As Mother ¹

Mary, you are mother to us

... Even as the Spirit of Intimacy

Ever awakens us

To the loving Presence of YOUR Jesus

— AS our Divine Brother .

As Brother, He ever ASCENDS TO LOVE,

Tenderly drawing us

— Our spirits, within His —

Into the wondrous Embrace

Of His Abba God,

Our dearest FATHER .

Mary, in mothering us through all our life,

Be with us ...

As your Paschal Jesus

— Our hand in His —

Leads us

... Through every quiver of our suffering,

... Through every pulse of our joy,

... Through the deepening delights of every Eucharist .

Mary, accompany us as mother ...

As the Ascending Jesus

Ever companions us

Into the yearning heart

Of our Abba God

— *The Centering Wonder of all our lives !*

Mary, befriend us

— *Hearts within your heart —*

As the grace of the Spirit

Ever opens our hearts,

And readies our spirits,

To experience, within,

The very Embrace

Of our loving Jesus and loving Abba !

Within this Embrace,

We commune, with you,

IN Their Eternal Kiss ...

And, are ever renewed

IN Their Spirit-Breath of Love .

Alleluia !

The Word Sent Forth, Returns ¹

*Those who take the Father's Word TO HEART,
See Jesus REVEALED in their lives :
These, who respond to Jesus, as our Brother-God
Need to experience OUR grateful, familial love for them .
Unsurprisingly, all these faithful sisters and brothers to Jesus,
Are invited by Him, to gaze together on Our Father !*

*Thus truly ...
"The Word that goes forth from Abba's mouth,
Does not return to Him empty
Without carrying out His will,
And succeeding in what it was sent to do !" ²*

¹ Poem 1234, Year 17 of Prayer Ministry, Wooloowin Community, Brisbane, Eastertide, April 2015.

² Cf. Is 55:10

Spirit-Filled Spaciousness ¹

*O Mother of Jesus,
Just as you enfolded
The Saviour of our old humanity
Within you womb,
Enwomb us now, in our New Humanity,
In the shared tender spaciousness
... The wondrous Spirit-filled spaciousness ...
Of your Beloved Son's re-vitalized human spirit !*

Within Our Vulnerability ¹

*O Apostle Thomas,
As Your fingertips entered
The gaping gash
Of the Glorified Jesus' side
Into the pierced heart
Of the Best of our humanity
— Wounded fatally for us sinners —
Guide our tremulous spirits
TO OPEN TO THE DIVINE
... Abiding, gently, within our own graced vulnerability ...
And be empowered THERE, with us,
By Abba's Beloved
— Our companioning "Lover of human life" — ²
Gracing all of US WOUNDED ONES
... Gathered by the Spirit,
Within His Ascendant New Humanity !*

¹ Poem 1236, Woolloowin Community, Feast of the Ascension, 17th May 2015.

² Cf. Wis 11:26 J.B.

The Beloved of Humanity ¹

*O Spirit of Christ's Ascendant Humanity
Now enfolded within Abba's Arms of Love ...*

*Disperse
Our paralysing fog of fear,
That keeps us stuck
... In our less-than-loyal yesterdays
... Or, in our tomorrows,
Fitfully focussed on the Divine .*

*En-Spirited by You,
— With the fearless faith
Of the Beloved of Humanity —
May we ever radically OPEN ...
To His life-transforming Revelation to us,
As the Ascended Beloved of God !*

The Unifying Source of All Relating ¹

*The Blessed Trinity is the ultimate source
... Of all that ENABLES US TO RELATE with dignity,
... And of the enlivening unity
At the heart of all true human relationships .
Every variety, every one, of our relationships
Is grounded in how Abba, Jesus Ascended and Their Mutual Spirit
Relate to Each Other, in the most utterly PERSONAL of ways,
And, exult in awe of Who-They-Are-Together !*

*Every couple, every friendship, every group,
Mirrors in a marvellous manner,
The Relationships within God —
... Where Trinity upholds Unity
And Unity upholds Trinity ;
... Where there's Trinity IN Unity
And Unity IN Trinity .
... Where the Three Persons TRANSCEND the One God
And where the One God TRANSCENDS the Three Persons .*

Abba's Embrace of Jesus' New Humanity ¹

*Abba cradles all of Creation,
Cradles all of us,
As He cradles Jesus Ascended
In arms of love .*

*As Abba embraces His Beloved's New Humanity,
He embraces too, all who share
In Jesus' New Humanity .* ²

*Similarly embraced, is the whole non-human creation
... Co-extensive as it is,
With Jesus Ascended's Creatureliness .*

¹ Poem 1239, Woolloowin Community, Trinity Sunday, May 31 2015.

² Eph 2:15