

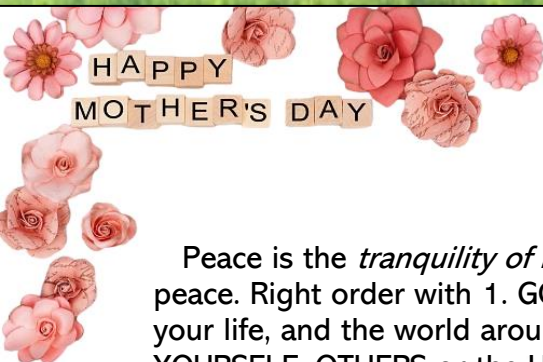
Of Seeds and Flowers

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William R. Pfeiffer - Director

Mary's Field, Ltd. - PO Box 99 - Hebron, CT 06248 - 860.530.1253 - wisdom@marysfield.org



THE TRANQUILITY OF RIGHT ORDER

Peace is the *tranquility of right order*. When your life is in right order YOU are at peace. Right order with 1. GOD, 2. YOURSELF, 3. OTHERS, 4. THE UNIVERSE. When your life, and the world around you, is OUT OF RIGHT ORDER with EITHER GOD, YOURSELF, OTHERS or the UNIVERSE there is pain, chaos, worry, anger, upset, violence, unhappiness, fear, turmoil, non-truth, sadness, confusion, deception etc.etc.. AND MUCH MORE!!!! Geel, sounds like a description of all of our institutions!



There is no right way to do the wrong thing, but we, and the world around us keep trying to make it work, putting round pegs into square holes. It is God, Self, Others, the Universe, or PAIN. Our personal sinfulness and the sinfulness of the world around us keep us in constant conflict. The wise and best teachers of our time keep telling us that all of our personal and social problems show themselves in psychological illness and that the ONLY SOLUTION is SPIRITUAL, but of course our pride, ego, independence (sinfulness) etc.- you name it-keep us from the peace we so desperately seek. And we wonder why the world around us is falling apart like a cheap sweater. We keep shooting ourselves in the foot and blame others for our faulty aim. READY, SHOOT, AIM! People are sick (theologians, rightly call it sin) so ALL, ALL, ALL our institutions are sick. "I am the vine; YOU are the branches." We want to bear fruit or flowers but not be a branch attached to the vine. Can't be done! PEACE IS THE TRANQUILITY OF RIGHT ORDER. NO ORDER, NO PEACE. Please check above for the prescription for peace. Taken daily, your future will be bright.



PICK ONE, THEY ALL APPLY:

A ☒ B ☒ C ☒ D ☒

A) "Time will tell where wisdom lies." (Matthew 11:19)

B) "...and the truth will set you free." (John 8:32)

C) "Do not conform yourselves to this age but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, so that you may judge what is God's will what is good, pleasing, and perfect." (Romans 12:2)

D) "Act on this word. If all you do is listen to it; you are deceiving yourselves." (James 1:2)

The Lighthouse



Once upon a time, a group of people decided to build a lighthouse in order to aid those in distress at sea. Even more, this group decided not only to provide a beacon of light for those who were lost, but even to form rescue squads who would brave dangerous waters to save those imperiled by shipwreck. In the beginning, the purpose of the group was clear.

Everyone who joined them knew they, too, would be trained to save people in distress. Within a short time, however, some who joined the group began to question whether it was necessary to answer every distress

signal. Perhaps, they said, it would be acceptable to have only certain hours when they were on duty. Next, they began to wonder if it was necessary for everyone to be part of the rescue mission. Perhaps, they thought, only certain members should go out, while most just watched from the shore.

After a time, the rescue missions stopped altogether and the group said, *'Enough of this going out to sea - if people are lost, we've got a light on our house to guide them. They can simply follow the light.'*

Next, the group began to be more concerned about the comfort of the lighthouse and their own safety. They began to argue about the Interior design and exterior decorations of the lighthouse. In addition, they did not want wet and soggy people - rescued from the sea - messing up their lighthouse.

The more they argued, the dimmer the light on the house became. One day the light went out and no one even noticed it. Finally, the group had a nice, comfortable house – and they changed the name from **LIGHTHOUSE TO CLUBHOUSE.**

"The Christian ideal has not been tried and found wanting. It has been found difficult; and left untried."

G.K. Chesterton

Before there was Pinterest, there were church Bulletin Boards

Retirement is about having more time for PRAYER and the Bible that has been gathering dust on the shelf all your working years. Retirement is the TIME for spiritual reading and the personal transformation that will touch the people around you. TIME is given to us by God as TIME to grow!! TOO BUSY now becomes SOME OTHER EXCUSE!! Remember: We are all sinners in recovery. Even saints are people who have had a past but we, we retired people, are people with a FUTURE. Most people go to their graves with their music inside of them.

There are only two ways to live your life. One is as though nothing is a miracle. The other is as though everything is a miracle. Always choose the latter!

An angel was walking down the street carrying a torch in one hand and a pail of water in the other. A woman asked the angel, "What are you doing with the torch and with the pail?" The angel said, "With the torch, I'm going to burn down the mansions of heaven, and with the pail I'm going to put out the fires of hell, THEN WE SHALL SEE WHO REALLY LOVES GOD."

"We live in an age of sustained dishonesty and denial."

Fr. Ronald Rolheiser

Carl Jung, the famous Swiss psychiatrist, just before he died in 1961 said, *"If America continues on the same path it is presently taking it will give away its soul in the next 25 years."* IT DID AND IT HAS!! 1961- A TRUE PROPHET! More Jung words: *"Christ is in us and we in Him. Why should the activity and the presence of the Son of man within us not be real and knowable? Every day I am thankful to God that I have been given to experience the reality of the Divine image within me, had this not been granted to me I should indeed been a bitter enemy of Christianity and especially the church. But thanks to this act of grace my life has meaning, and my inward eye has been opened to the beauty and greatness of religious truth."* Letters 1:387. TRANSFORMED PEOPLE TRANSFORM PEOPLE! That which is not TRANSFORMED IS TRANSMITTED!

"PRAY, HOPE AND DON'T WORRY. Prayer is the best weapon we have; It is the key to God's heart." St. Padre Pio



NEED CHURCH: *"How much I must criticize you, my church and yet how much I love you! You have made me suffer more than anyone and yet I owe more to you than to anyone. I should like to see you destroyed and yet I need your presence. You have given me much scandal and yet you alone have made me understand holiness. Never in this world have I seen anything more compromised, more false, yet never have I touched anything more pure, more generous and more beautiful."* Carlo Carretto,



Kids say the funniest things

Some funny answers given by Catholic Grade School student to questions about the Bible: Spelling included.

7. The seventh commandment is Thou shalt not admit adultery.
8. Solomon, one of David's sons, had 300 wives and 700 porcupines.
9. When Mary heard she was the mother of Jesus she sang the Magna Carta.
10. Moses died before he ever reached Canada. Then he led the Hebrews in the battle of Geritol.
11. Moses went up to mount cyanide to get the ten commandments.
12. The epistles were the wives of the apostles. The people who followed the Lord were called the 12 decibels.

1. One of the opossums was St. Matthew who was also a taximan.
2. Christians have only one spouse. This is called monotony.
3. St. Paul cavorted to Christianity; He preached holy acrimony which is another name for marriage.
4. Jesus enunciated the golden rule, which says to do unto others before they do one to you.
5. Jesus was born because Mary had an immaculate contraption.
6. The Jews were a proud people and throughout history they had trouble with unsympathetic genitals.

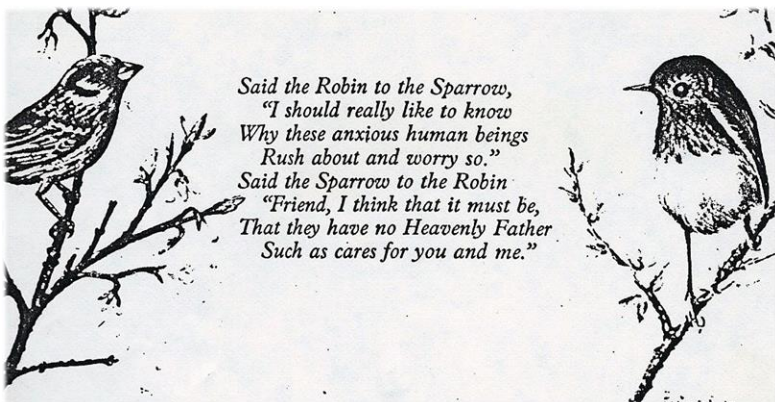


Check out Centering Prayer on our podcasts or Thomas Keating or Cynthia Brougault on YouTube. Keating's books, ***"Open Mind Open Heart, Intimacy with God, and Invitation to Love"*** will change your life. Why not become contemplative? - for 16 centuries, until the Reformation, being a contemplative was **NORMAL** for **EVERYBODY!** Don't be bashful! Want it all! It is easy! **WE FEAR SILENCE AND SOLITUDE BECAUSE WE FEAR THE TRUTH OF OUR INNER POVERTY.**

NEED PRAYER, SILENCE, LOVE: The realization of being loved by God is the highlight of the first stage of Centering Prayer. This stage enables us to **SEE GOD IN ALL THINGS**. The next level of contemplative prayer helps us to **SEE ALL THINGS IN GOD**. The third level of contemplative prayer, which is an *abiding state of divine union*, is to **SEE GOD GIVING HIMSELF IN EVERYTHING**.



There are over 300 longer podcasts in our library of Mary's Field Podcasts and about 70 of our 60 second podcasts. Good stories, some good spiritual teaching. We are getting about 15,000 views a month; have 1200 subscribers and have over 800 people returning each month. - **A FULL MINISTRY IN ITSELF.**



We Christians have largely mirrored our culture instead of transforming it. America is in a desperate fight for its soul. Franklin Graham, Billy's son, calls it **THIS PRESENT DARKNESS** and has written that ***"the only hope for us is Jesus, the Light of the world."*** This is no exaggeration!! Pray!! Let's expel this darkness! Just heard Pres. Biden say that there is no such thing as YOUR kids. Your kids belong to **EVERYONE**. Can you imagine how this piece of "wisdom" changes the playing field? ***"To get a nation back on its feet you must first get them on their knees"*** Billy Graham

Whatever the social cause of the moment happens to be, people are always trying to enlist Jesus into it. Recently, there have been attempts to remake Jesus into a black man, a feminist, a capitalist, a socialist, a homosexual, a revolutionary, a pacifist, a patriot, a vegetarian, (The pascal lamb, at the Last Supper must have been made of tofu) and now, brace yourself, a transgender woman. -the hottest thing in the gender wars, by a preacher at vespers in Trinity College in England and as a transgender person by a preacher at St. Paul Parish in New York. Jesus is always enlisted to normalize the current culture wars. Or the first one to be drafted into the army, e.g. "Gott Mit Uns" (God with us) on the Nazi soldier's belt buckle.



To Date, May 15th, we have received \$1800 in donations to our request for help and are able to continue for a few more newsletters. Thank you for your love and generosity. \$800.00 was from one of my sons to whom I am most grateful.

A Rating Code for Sermons: You might want to rate the next sermon you hear or perhaps this issue of "OF SEEDS and FLOWERS" using the following code:

Rated "G"	Rated "PG"
Generally acceptable to everyone. Full of inoffensive, common platitudes. Usually described as "wonderful" or "marvelous."	More mature congregations. At times this sermon makes the Gospel relevant to today's issues. May even contain mild suggestions for change. Often described as "challenging" , though no one intends to take any action or change any attitudes.
Rated "R"	Rated "X"
Definitely restricted to those not upset by truth. This sermon "tells it like it is." Threatens the comfortable; most often described as "disturbing" or "controversial." Usually indicates that the preacher has an outside source of income.	Positively limited to those who can handle bombshell/explosive ideas. This sermon really "socks it to 'em." The kind of sermon that landed Jeremiah in the well, got Amos run out of town, surprised Jonah, and nailed Jesus to the cross. Always described as "shocking" or "in poor taste." The minister who preaches this sermon had better have his/her suitcase packed and life insurance paid in full.

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