

Of Seeds and Flowers

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LET THERE BE LIGHT , YES LIGHT!!!

LIGHT, LIGHT, LIGHT -The Christmas/Epiphany Season is about LIGHT. Lent is about LIFE. Pentecost is the season of LOVE. -and the remaining days of the Liturgical year teach us how to love. -think the Beatitudes!!

Light is not so much what you directly see AS THAT BY WHICH YOU SEE EVERYTHING ELSE. This is why in St. John's Gospel, Jesus makes the most boastful statement, "I am the LIGHT of the world." 8: 12. He is the LIGHT BY WHICH EVERYTHING ELSE is seen and understood. We are so slow!

Scientists have discovered that what looks like darkness to the human eye is actually filled with tiny particles called "neutrinos", slivers of light that pass through the entire universe. Can you imagine? There is no such thing as total darkness ANYWHERE, EVEN THOUGH THE HUMAN EYE THINKS THERE IS.

Recently, my son, John, bought and sent a copy of a marvelous book, New York Times Bestseller "Imagine the God of Heaven", written by a Pastor John Burke. Pastor Burke has spent 3 decades studying more than 1000 people who have had Near Death Experiences or "NDErs". Modern medical resuscitation and digital communication have revealed a gold mine of intriguing NDErs from many countries and religious backgrounds or even no religious background at all. He illustrates all this with 70 unbelievable accounts. To read this book is to deepen one's belief in God, His reality and unbelievable LIGHT and LOVE. ALL NDErs say it! This must be a special time for us when all this revelation is needed to bolster our faith. Get a copy for around \$13.00 and it will change your life.



I mention this book because one NDEr says, "I never really understood that "glory of God" thing before I witnessed it. God is truly glorious, magnificent, awesome, without equal. His glory is a LIGHT but made of infinite LOVE. God's LIGHT appears like a sudden, silent, atomic bomb blast of WHITE LIGHT, full of His power. Imagine being 5 feet away from the source of a nuclear explosion, but His LIGHT is more than LIGHT-it is overwhelming, a literal tsunami of infinite, unconditional LOVE." LIGHT and LOVE are the constant nouns used by ALL 70 of the people encountering Jesus/God. Divine LIGHT and LOVE wait for us to give their IMMENSE ENERGY AN

"Whatever came to be in Him, found life, life for the LIGHT of mankind. The LIGHT shines on in darkness, A DARKNESS THAT DID NOT OVERCOME IT. There was a man named John sent by God, who came as a witness to testify to the LIGHT, so that through him all men might believe- but ONLY to testify to the LIGHT, for he himself was not the LIGHT. The real LIGHT which gives LIGHT to every person was coming into the world." John 1: 4-9

OCCASION TO flow! Imagine being able to control God's LIGHT and LOVE!!!

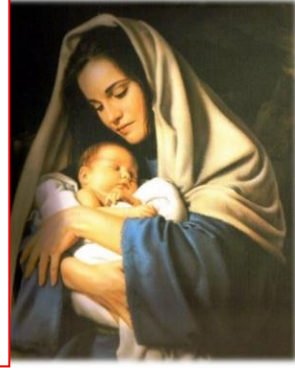
I mention this book because the word LIGHT appears many, many, **MANY TIMES** in each "NDers" experience. **LIGHT, LIGHT, LIGHT** EVERYWHERE. Christmas is the season of LIGHT, **THE** LIGHT.

God wants YOU to remember: **1.** You are never, never alone. **2.** Nothing takes Him by surprise. **3.** When you are weak, He's strong. **4.** He is the God of healing and hope and **5.** His love never gives up on us.

"We are lost in wonder at all you have done for us, Our Lord and mighty God."
Rev.15:3

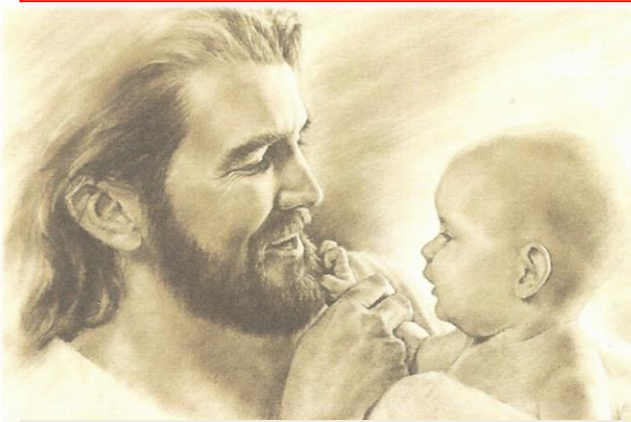


"I was the first tabernacle. The Holy Body grew within me first." Mary spoke these words to the visionaries at Medjugorje. Mary also told the visionaries that if they ever find themselves having to choose between seeing her in an apparition, or celebrating the Eucharist, they should **ALWAYS CHOOSE MASS.**



It began with the simple cry of a baby...And grew into a shout of good news that echoed through the ages... Christ is born! - anew in your heart?

"The Incarnation is like a dagger thrust into the sheath of human history." Hoskyns



"Make ready for Christ the Savior", shouts Thomas Merton, "whose smile, like lightning, sets free the song of everlasting glory that now sleeps in your paper flesh; like dynamite." WOW!!!

At Christmas we have the chance to stop the process of **de-Christianization** in our own hearts by allowing the Child, the reality of God to be reborn in our hearts. **"I choose everything, my God, I do not want to be a saint by halves. I am not afraid to suffer for your sake; I only fear doing my own will, so I give it to You and choose everything you will."** - St. Teresa of Lisieux.



He who has no Christ in his heart will never find Christmas under a tree.



Each one of us is an innkeeper who decides if there is room for Jesus.





We are hanging on by a VERY THIN financial shoestring. We are a tax-exempt 501,3c tax exempt nonstock, nonprofit corporation. All donations are tax deductible. If we feed you, please will you feed us so we can keep on going!

EVERYTHING HAS CONSEQUENCES, EVERYTHING!!

"If prayer is not already a joy for you, then start slowly. If you force yourself, you will succumb to weakness and get discouraged."

Mirjana Soldo

To pray is to meet Jesus just as to swim is to be in water. We are made for religious experiences.



"Some day after we have mastered the winds, the waves, the tides, and gravity, we will harness for God the energies of love, and then, for the second time in the history of the world, we will have discovered fire." - Pierre Teilhard de



VISION AND REALITY I wanted to avoid VISION AND REALITY for Christmas but "things keep happening". For 40 years, "Of Seeds and Flowers" has always presented ONLY the truth. We do hear the Lord and discern the, His truth. You can trust us. At age 87, my pride and ego do not care about being RIGHT, but I do humbly care about TRUTH. Being RIGHT doesn't matter but speaking the TRUTH does matter. *"Where there is no wisdom, the people perish."* Proverbs

We are all united to the Child who is born but only some people know it! SAD!!



I had a friend, Francis MacNutt, who died a few years ago. Francis, for 60 years, travelled millions of miles preaching and teaching and through the gift of healing that God gave him, God healed 1000's and 1000's of sick people through him. He once told me that of all the mailed publication he received he only read "Of Seeds and Flowers" because we always dealt in solid spirituality and truth and wisdom in evaluating social concerns. - Now, we have published over 400 issues of "Of Seeds and Flowers". Francis, before he died reviewed Richard Rohr's unbelievably spectacular book about the Trinity; *"The Divine Dance"* and shared these TOUCHING AND TRANSFORMING WORDS." Francis wrote,

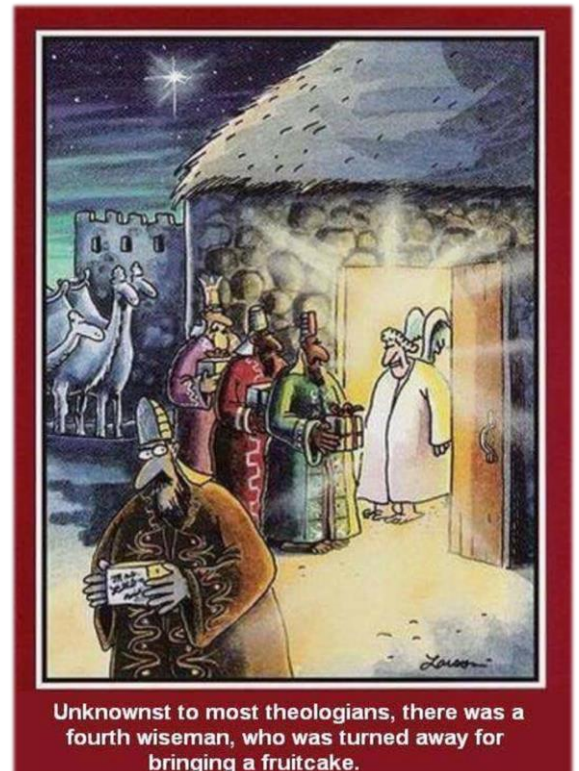
"Many years ago, I had a vision - somehow I just knew- of the Trinity, dancing. In this dance God's persons were filled with great contagious joy. I remember wishing I could join them in that intimate, circular dance, You can imagine my great joy when Jesus took me by the hand and included me in it! WOW!! Francis continues, "My dear friend Richard Rohr has once again given us a remarkable book on a subject that most Christians haven't really thought about or prayed about, and yet, we all agree is at the very heart of Christianity:



from the bottom up by making clear the very shape of God, and in the Divine Dance he does just that. I am privileged to endorse the is marvelous book and t know that the wisdom contained within these pages will enable us all to join in the dance of life! Francis' wonderful wife, Judith, continues to lead"

Christian Healing Ministries in Jacksonville. - most worthy of your support! IMAGINE, DANCING WITH THE FATHER, SON AND HOLY SPIRIT!!!

We didn't have a special luncheon for the retired/convalescening Sisters of Mercy in December because of the many activities planned for Advent/Christmas. Instead, we visited, with Sister Claire, our dear friend, and gave each Sister a beautiful Baby Jesus in a ribboned wrapped box, lying on a gentle golden felt, a can of Christmas cookies and candy canes. - and you were there with your Mary's Field gifts. My granddaughter, Reesie, sent a Thanksgiving cards to each of the nuns and the school children from St. James Grade School will be sending Christmas cards to the sisters. Thank you to Mrs. Zorger, the principal of St James Grade School!!



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