

Because We Love God Kathy Sherman, CSJ

Why do you feed the hungry? Why do you comfort those in sorrow?
What is the source of your passion, your joy? Why are you calm in a storm?

Why do you hunger for justice? Why do you give your heart away
to the weary, the poor, the unloved, the unfree? Why do you do what you do?

*Because we love God; because we love God and all that belongs to God.
Because we love God we are who we are and we do what we do
because we love God.*

Why do you forgive those who hurt you? Why do you call the stranger friend?
What is the hope that you cling to at night? Why is your dreaming so bold?

Why are you friends with the outcast? Why does your table welcome all?
Yes and why does your fire never burn out? Why do you do what you do?

Why do you bless the children? Why are you concerned about the future?
Why do you protect Earth and all her creatures? Why is your vision so wide?

Why do you love without boundaries? Why is your song a song for all?
And why do you dare to believe that all are one?
Why do you do what you do?

Prayer Leader:

Betsy Nero
1 / 14-15 / 2020

Printed on 100% recycled paper

Live as Much as Possible at a Higher Level



Ade Bethune



Our prayer is characterized by silence ~

Be still and know that I am God!

In that silence we listen for a new word.
God is present in all our lives.
God cares for us, and
our life experiences are a source
of deepening knowledge of God and self.

Inspired by God's Word in the silence

Renew · Refresh · Refocus

14812 Lake Ave, Lakewood, OH 44107 | 216.228.7415
centeringspace@srssofcharity.org | www.centeringspace.org

A Sponsored Ministry of the Sisters of Charity of St. Augustine

To Ponder:

Immortal Diamond Richard Rohr

“The reason we must die before we die is expressed eloquently by Kathleen Dowling Singh, a woman who has spent her life in hospice work: *‘The ordinary mind (the False Self) and its delusions die in the ‘Nearing Death Experience.’ As death carries us off, it is impossible to any longer pretend that who we are is our ego. The ego is transformed in the very carrying off.’* Some form of death – psychological, spiritual, relational, or physical – is the only way we will loosen our ties to our small and separate False Self. Only then does it return in a new shape, which I am calling the Risen Christ, or the soul, or the True Self.

The ego self is the self before death; the soul is real only after we have walked through the death of our ever fading False Self and come out larger and brighter on the other side. Hafiz, the fourteenth-century Persian mystic poet, says it is as only he can: “God is trying to sell you something, but you don’t want to buy. This is what your suffering is: Your fantastic haggling, your manic screaming over the price.”

Reading:

All is Grace: A Biography of Dorothy Day Jim Forest

“the best thing to do with the best of things is to give them up...Don’t use what you don’t need – and have as little as possible. The coat hanging in your closet on a winter day belongs to someone who is freezing without it. Give it away. Do without. Do it for the love of others, especially for the poor, for Christ has hidden himself among the hungry and thirsty, the naked and homeless, the sick and imprisoned. Try to live as much as possible at a higher level, the level of the spirit, the level of love.”



Fritz Eichenberg

Sharing...

a word...

a phrase...

a reflection...