

Reflection Friday Week 16 – 2020

Storytelling connects us, helps us make sense of the world, and communicates values and beliefs. A good story makes us think and feel, and speaks to us in ways that information, knowledge and explanations simply cannot. For Sr Macrina Wiederkehr osb her response to the question of Mary Oliver ***“Tell me, what is it that you plan to do with your one wild and precious life?”*** meant to EXPLORE. A kind of exploring that has nothing to do with going to far off places but requires attention and mindfulness! She sees it as an invitation to explore what is nearby, things we encounter but often ignore each day. It could mean studying the wings of the dragonfly or sitting so still near a pond that you are able to see the eyes of the frogs. It could mean exploring your garden in all its beauty and detail one day at a time. To discover things hidden in plain sight. To embrace the healing oil of nature and be obedient to its prophetic voice. To walk through a cemetery and feel the prayerful presence of the dead. Discovering more about the history of your family members. Making discoveries that lead to shouts of wonder, exclamations of delight and cries of joy. Rediscovering the true adventure of life that we had when we were young. Jesus explains the story (parable) of the Sower as a starter for 10, but Jesus hopes that you will find other hidden treasures that lie within. Treasures that speak to the depth of your heart, that speak to you of the deep love and wisdom of God. Discoveries made through prayer and reflection. T.S. Eliot wrote: *We shall not cease from exploration. For the end of all our exploring will be to arrive where we started and know the place for the first time!* Which some of us will call Heaven!

Another story about heaven

Little Johnny's new baby brother was screaming up a storm. He asked his mom, "Where'd we get him?" His mother replied, "He came from heaven, Johnny." Johnny says, "WOW! I can see why they threw him out!"