

ONE WILD AND PRECIOUS LIFE #3

The question that Lent, the season of truth, asks is “how much reality about yourself can you bear?” Are you aware of your ambiguous motives, your rampant ego, your inner envy, your urge to power? Most of us try to live the Christian life without ever entering those raw and searing cellars of our own unbearable darkness. We forever endeavour to short-circuit the relentless call of Christ. We want to equate the increase in our religious behaviour during Lent with growth in holiness. There is, however, no cheap grace; worship without sacrifice is worthless...It is a Lenten grace when we are able to hold



within us, as Jesus did, the tension of the paradoxes of our lives. The greater the soul, the greater the shadow. Lent teaches us that we

must befriend that shadow. When the eye is unblocked, the Buddhists tell us, the vision is sure; when the small gods go, God arrives [from D. O’Leary]

SCRIPTURE:

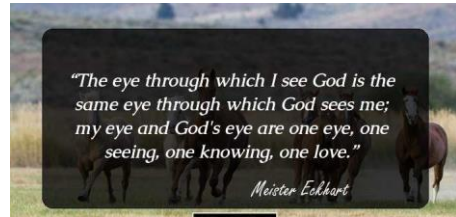
Will I spend this Lent again “squinting through the mists” of my life unwilling to own my need for Him



who alone can help me see clearly; unwilling or unable to remember all that He has done for me

and how profoundly he loves me? Maybe, just maybe, JESUS is inviting each of us this year, to walk courageously with him over these days with the utter conviction that he is always close and that I am loved unconditionally no matter what ‘stuff-ups’ are so frequent in my life?

MYSTICS: MEISTER ECKHART OP 1260-1328



MIRIAM OF NAZARETH MENTOR AND GUIDE

Let us ponder over these remaining days of Lent the thoughts that may have been in the mind and heart of Jesus’ mother as she sensed the danger into which he walked in these final days of his public ministry. Deeply concerned [see Mark6:3] for the ways in which he challenged both Jewish and Roman traditions she may well have sensed that his time was coming to its end.



SAINT MARCELLIN OUR FATHER AND FOUNDER

“Marcellin was vividly aware of the way in which Jesus Christ had filled the universe by his coming and redemption, and Marcellin had mastered the art of directing all things to the adoration and service of God. God’s loving nearness his ceaseless efforts to



uplift and restore all creation, were familiar and central to Marcellin....he said: ‘all your lessons, whatever you teach are so many acts of love that you practise. The zeal that you

have for leading the students to God will have changed into gold, that is, into acts of love..”[Gibson, SMS p.80]

A LENTEN QUOTE >>>“Within the contours of the spiritual landscape we encounter features powerfully representing key aspects of our faith and prayer journey. Here we traverse the desert, ascend the mountain, cross the bridge, and descend to the cave.” {A. D. Mayes} **Bob**