



NEA NEWSLETTER



OCTOBER NEWS 2021



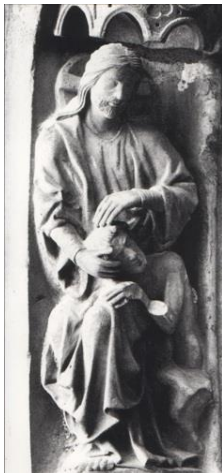
The disciple, visiting the master, exclaimed,

“Wow, wow, wow! This is a beautiful patch of land you live on!”

And the master, looking at the disciple, with a hint of a smile, responded saying,

“When you have a beautiful mind everything, and everyone, and everywhere is beautiful.”

6th day of Creation – Malcolm Guite



You made us new and beautiful today,
Your Spirit softened us like morning dew,
Your Image shining from us through the clay,
You made us new.

You woke us and we knew ourselves in you,
We walked together at the close of day,
You trusted us and called us to be true.

When we forsook your love and turned away
You came and sought us where we hid from
you,
And on the cross, in darkness, on this day
You made us new.



7th Day of Creation – Malcolm Guite

Blessing and rest, delight in everything
Sustained by your strong love and richly blest,
This is the gift you give, the day you bring
Blessing and rest.

This is indeed the ‘gladness of the best’,
From first lines in the east where linnets sing,
To where the last light lingers in the west,

You lift the cares to which I used to cling,
As you yourself descend to be my guest
And show me how to find in everything
Blessing and rest.



THE LITTLE BOY WHO PUT THE WORLD BACK TOGETHER

There was a man who had a little boy that he loved very much. Every day after work the man would come home and play with the little boy. He would always spend all of his extra time playing with the little boy.

One night, while the man was at work, he realized that he had extra work to do for the evening, and that he wouldn't be able to play with his little boy. But he wanted to be able to give the boy something to keep him busy.

So, looking around his office, he saw a magazine with a large map of the world on the cover. He got an idea. He removed the map, and then patiently tore it up into small pieces. Then he put all the pieces in his coat pocket.

When he got home, the little boy came running to him and was ready to play. The man explained that he had extra work to do and couldn't play just now, but he led the little boy into the dining room, and taking out all the pieces of the map, he spread them on the table, together with some scotch-tape.

He explained that it was a map of the world, and that by the time he could put it back together, his extra work would be finished, and they could both play. Surely this would keep the child busy for hours, he thought.

About half an hour later the boy came to the man and said, *"Okay, it's finished. Can we play now?"*

The man was surprised, saying, *"That's impossible. Let's go see."*

And sure enough, there was the picture of the world, all put together, every piece in its place.

The man said, *"That's amazing! How did you do that?"*

The boy said, *"It was simple. On the back of the page was a picture of a man. When I put the man together the whole world fell into place."*



Human beings' role in Creation:

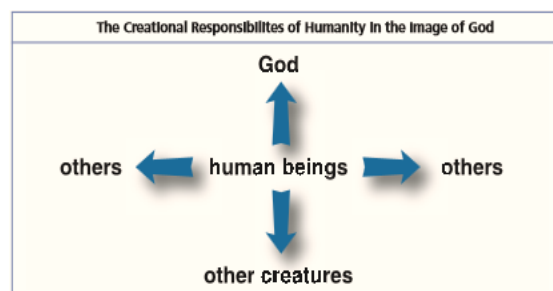
Praise: we should give a heartfelt response to the God who created us, expressing gratitude

Protection: we need to actively protect our "garden" from destruction

Provision: we should provide for ourself, our family and the whole human race from the resources we have been freely given

Proclamation: we must regain our collective courage, open our mouths, and proclaim with authority the truth about the sanctity of our universe and the immorality of destroying it

Presentation: we get out what we put in so it is time to step up and live as we know we ought to and lead by example



CELEBRATING the SEASON of CREATION in NODDFA

4th October -Feast of St Francis

We chose this final day of the Season of Creation for our celebration in Noddfa. It was prepared by the Justice and Peace group of the parish and we invited some from other parishes and from Eglwys y Berth (the Presbyterian chapel in Pen). One of the cats and a hen wanted to take part too!



We started off outside and after half an hour it started to rain so we had to move into the tent. We used the material prepared in Glasgow for the Season of Creation with an emphasis on praying for COP 26.

We also had a demonstration of Earth as an apple. (Watch this on You tube – “[Earth as an apple – space to grow food](#)”). As there has been a plea in the UK for everyone to plant a tree this year, we dug up some seedlings (ash, oak, beech, ‘strawberry tree’, holly) to offer to people to take home and plant in their garden or on the bare hillside. We had tea and cake afterwards – of course!



Mary Jo



A CREATION CHAPEL in St Anne's Parish, Liverpool.

In St. Anne's Parish in Liverpool, where Eleanor Dalton lives, they are creating a Creation Chapel. It is still a work in progress but these two photographs give an idea of what is being done.



Pieces by Rainer Maria Rilke for Autumn time



1. Lord: it is time. The summer was immense.
Lay your shadow on the sundials
and let loose the wind in the fields.

Bid the last fruits to be full;
give them another two more southerly days,
press them to ripeness, and chase
the last sweetness into the heavy wine....



2. The leaves are falling, falling as if from far up,
as if orchards were dying high in space.
Each leaf falls as if it were motioning "no."

And tonight the heavy earth is falling
away from all other stars in the loneliness.



We're all falling. This hand here is falling.
And look at the other one. It's in them all.

And yet there is Someone, whose hands,
infinitely calm, holds all this falling.

5 lessons to learn from the trees in Autumn (adapted)

Let go of the old leaves so that you can see the blue sky above

When we are still surrounded by the past it's difficult to see the new opportunities ahead. Declutter and get a clearer vision of the future.

Keep your trunk and branches standing firm

Letting go doesn't mean losing everything and starting over. Our values are the trunk that keeps us alive and our branches are the unique strengths that give us our shape.

Celebrate the seasons past

Let us enjoy the fruits of our past and be proud to celebrate the results of our successes and hard work that got us to where we are today.



Use your past to provide the food and strength for future growth

The past will always be part of us. Our life experience builds our character and the resilience that enables us to move forwards and meet new challenges. We need to draw from our experience, reflect and use it to promote new growth.

Prepare new shoots and wait for spring

If we can see new ideas forming it makes it easier to let go. When the time is right growth will happen. Life has many seasons. If we learn to adapt to the environment around us we can trust the future. Be like a tree!



HOLY SPIRIT SISTERS ZAMBIA



Congratulations to Sr. Rosalia, and all the Holy Spirit Sisters in Zambia who celebrated the 50th Anniversary of their founding as a Congregation on Saturday, October 16. Some of the RSHM in Ferrybank watched on YouTube and Facebook.

The following has been received from Lelia in Zambezi:

“Hello. We had a great celebration yesterday. We represented all of you who contributed so much to the growth of the Holy Spirits over the past 50 years. To mark our contribution we planted an avocado tree in the area behind Shalom where they are building a Women's Centre. Hopefully you saw some of the dancing and rejoicing, it's still on YouTube, but not very good I believe. Romana and Rosemary are enquiring about you all.”

Florence



Coldridah

Lelia

Synodality – Will our voices be heard by the Bishops?

Some of us for the last year have been taking part in the preparation for the Root and Branch Synod which took place in Bristol in September. It was organised by women to begin with, but after a while, men were also part of the discussions. If you want to hear about it, Mary McAleese's keynote speech and the Bristol text are on the Root and Branch website :

<https://www.rootandbranchsynod.org>

There are plenty of ideas to help us to respond to the invitation to take part in the preparations for the upcoming Synod.

Quotes from 'The Bristol Text'

2.1 Equality and justice for all.

Jesus preached the Good News of the historical advent of the Kingdom of God, which brings justice and peace to all human beings, and liberation to the oppressed. For the Catholic Church to cooperate with God's Kingdom, it needs to model its organizational structure, and its Canon Law, on those principles of equality and justice for all. The Church's Canon Law urgently requires renewing, using the United Nations' Universal Declaration of Human Rights as its benchmark.

3.1 Every baptised person is clothed in Christ. (Galatians 3:27)

'There is, therefore, in Christ and in the Church no inequality on the basis of race or nationality, social condition or gender, because 'there is neither Jew nor Greek: there is neither bond nor free: there is neither male nor female. For you are all one in Christ Jesus.' (Lumen Gentium 32, Vatican II). We should add, 'people of all abilities and genders.' We must learn to be open to all, and especially the destabilising influence of people not like us. 'Whoever wants to be first must be the last of all.' (Mark 9:35)

3.3 The Holy Spirit's call to ministry may be heard by all people.

We need a clearer understanding of vocations. All the baptised are eligible to answer God's call to every ministry. That call is discerned within and by the community of God, which is a companionship of empowerment. Current research makes it clear that in the earliest Christian gatherings, women and men, single and married, led communities in worship, exercising their baptismal calling.