

# Folio Fifteen

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# Folio Fifteen

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## The Spirit's Relating <sup>1</sup>

*Jesus shows us  
How to relate to the Father,  
Mary shows us  
How to relate to Jesus,  
The Spirit shows  
How to relate to ourselves, and to others.  
... "The Spirit joins Himself to our spirit", <sup>2</sup>  
"To each person, the manifestation of the Spirit  
Is given for the common good", <sup>3</sup>  
– As we are "individually members one of another". <sup>4</sup>*

*In this way the Spirit brings all four relationships  
Together into unity –  
"The unity which has the Spirit as its origin,  
And peace as its binding force". <sup>5</sup>*

## For Our Eternal Good <sup>1</sup>

*Evangelical celibacy “chooses” us,  
Rather than we choosing it.  
Religious life is not a calling  
To celebrate celibacy,  
But a calling to celebrate the Gospel  
In a celibate way ... like Jesus.  
It seems a particular individual is thus called  
Because, in God’s wisdom,  
His or her psycho-sexual, spiritual reality  
Is BEST served by such a call.*

*If the call is of God,  
Then it is for the person’s long term, indeed ETERNAL, good.  
And because the choice is eternal,  
Most of the reasons will be clothed in mystery.  
Some will be GLIMPSED at the psycho-sexual level,  
Others will surface within one’s spirit.  
Faith in the celibate Jesus,  
Can be a wonderful source of deep strength  
For the struggling religious.*

—

## Signs of Faith <sup>1</sup>

*If we believe, like Mary, we don't need signs,  
... But will be given them unasked for.  
"We of little faith" cannot recognize <sup>2</sup>  
The signs given us, AS signs :  
... Such as negative signs-like Zachary's loss of speech,  
... Or positive signs-like Elizabeth's pregnancy.  
We will rationalize them away  
... As 'coincidences' or 'scientifically explainable'.  
However,  
If we "keep" the Word like Mary <sup>3</sup>  
Within our hearts,  
We simply KNOW the signs are given to us  
– To glorify the God of our believing,  
And to draw us to declare,  
"Be it done to me according to Your (signed) Word". <sup>4</sup>*

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<sup>1</sup> Year 1 Prayer Ministry Taringa Community Brisbane March 1999

<sup>2</sup> Mt 8:26

<sup>3</sup> Lk 2:52

<sup>4</sup> Lk 1:38

## The Pre-Dawn of Our Hearts <sup>1</sup>

*Anyone who LOVES THE TRUTH about life,  
Is like the person who loves the dawn  
But DOES NOT YET SEE the sun.  
His deep intuitive attraction  
Is to the One  
Who is the Light of Love  
... Lighting up the pre-dawn of our hearts  
Until the graced day  
... Ever present but not yet ...  
When “the God of tender mercies ...  
Will bring the rising Sun to visit us”. <sup>2</sup>*

## Co-Authored <sup>1</sup>

*In re-telling our story  
We need to be especially thankful ...  
For others valuing us,  
And for affirming our story.  
In so doing,  
Our life is re-authored anew  
– Because it is now CO-AUTHORED !*

## Like the Work of the Womb <sup>1</sup>

*God's Word spoken through nowadays prophets  
Not only eternalizes the Word NOW  
– By proclaiming a future unfolding LOVE –  
But actually ENABLES it ...  
Because God's Word ever-CREATES the future of His People.*

*Humankind, the responsive FOCUS OF CREATION  
– Which, with all nature, tries to 'perfect itself' –  
"Groans in travail" <sup>2</sup>  
And is acted upon by the Spirit  
Who "plumbs the depths of God". <sup>3</sup>  
Thus, the Spirit is the Re-Creator of our lives,  
In the Ascended Christ.*

*In this transformative process,  
Abba's Creative Spirit  
Enters into the chaos and our confused strivings  
– Bringing energy, direction and motivation,  
Integration and beauty,  
To our struggles  
– Re-configuring then to the humanity of the Beloved.*

*Humankind's needed primal response,  
Is OPENNESS  
To this "hovering Spirit" <sup>4</sup>  
... Stirring our feelings,  
Triggering our intuitions,  
Firing our dreams.  
The Spirit's work is like the work of the womb :  
In reverencing growth,  
There need be no rush,  
No haste to form our lives, or to hurry development.*



*At Abba's "appointed time",<sup>5</sup>*  
*The Word appears with CREATIVE POWER :*  
*Lightening the shadows,*  
*Giving humanity's dreams expression in words,*  
*Letting the truth of our inner stirrings emerge,*  
*Colouring and highlighting our aspirations,*  
*Discerning directions and priorities,*  
*And interpreting the Father's metaphors of COMMUNION*  
*... Therein revealing, some of the faces of the Fellowship of God.*

*The Spirit not only prepares for the Word,*  
*But companions its embodiment within humanity,*  
*And empowers it to fruition.*  
*It is creative of the Church Community*  
*... Christ's Body ...*  
*Labouring within it, sensitizing it,*  
*Animating it, enabling it.*  
*It opens it to receive the Word,*  
*To shape acceptance of the Word,*  
*To integrate the Word's many expressions,*  
*To nurture and love the Word into life,*  
*To cause the Word to burnish our spirits with joy!*

*The Word is Abba's Word :*  
*It is a SAVING word,<sup>6</sup>*  
*Sent into the world, enfleshed in this world,*  
*Always producing what it proclaims<sup>7</sup>*  
*Until its mission is "fulfilled",<sup>8</sup>*  
*And it returns to Abba.<sup>9</sup>*

*The Spirit of this Incarnate Word*  
*Is the Spirit of the Ascended Jesus*  
*... The Spirit animating the Church,*  
*And dwelling within our hearts.*

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Year 1 Prayer Ministry.

1 Poem 286 Taringa Community Brisbane, May 1999.

2 Rom 8:22 3 1Cor 2:10 4 Gen 1:2 5 Gal 4:4 6 Acts 13:26 7 Is 55:11 8 ibid 9 ibid

## Intuitive Prayer <sup>1</sup>

*Because the Beloved is faithful...  
As our prayer buds into life, before blossoming,  
– In “the sighing of the Spirit” within, <sup>2</sup>  
In the stirrings of intuitive prayer-  
The untapped POWER of humanity  
– Of the unconscious and sub-conscious –  
Is released within our spirits  
– Within the Mystery of the Spirit.*

*The Spirit liberates us, from our controlling egos,  
As we are DRAWN lovingly,  
Into the mystery of our inner self,  
And thus into the wellspring of all our relationships  
... Our graced relationship with Abba  
– In Jesus Ascended.*

## To Dream the Spirit Dream <sup>1</sup>

*Trust is stifled by timidity of imagination.  
Failure in faith is most often a failure of imagination.  
But, it's not our plain human imagination  
... Which registers only ephemeral traces of God ...  
No! It is our imagination elevated, permeated, by the Spirit  
– Imagery, subsumed by the Spirit as its own!  
It is the lack of openness to THIS imagination,  
That stifles faith –  
Limiting, restricting the eternal sweep  
Of the Spirit's creative energies  
To the confines of our timidity.  
It is failing to know,  
With the Spirit's incomparable Intuition,  
That God is ever operative and present – Here! Now!*

*Contrarivise, it is our calling, as God's beloved children,  
To be responsive to THIS imagination,  
To be servants of it,  
To allow it to galvanize and transcend our own!  
To dream with God's own Dreaming...  
And, because it is the Diving Imagination,  
It ENABLES, what it imagines, to become real.*

*Ours it is, to dream this Spirit Dream –  
To ride the wings  
Of the wind  
Of this Creative Spirit!  
To sing Christ's Song  
To Abba, our Abba,  
On Ascension Day!*

## Nurturing Christ <sup>1</sup>

*Mary puts us in touch with Jesus ...  
In an especially tender and nurturing way.  
From her, we learn the possibilities  
Of caring affectionately for Christ-in-the-other.  
Through touch we can, like Mary,  
Nurture Christ's gentle growth in others.*

*Yet it is the Spirit, through Mary,  
Who CAUSES this nurturing to happen :  
Because it is "the power of the Most High overshadowing Mary", <sup>2</sup>  
Who brings Christ's humanity to blossom within her.  
Thus, our own sharing,  
As in Mary's open responsiveness to the Spirit,  
Will allow Christ to blossom in others  
... Through our caring touch.*

## Embodying the Word in Our Lives <sup>5</sup>

*The Word of God found a home  
In the heart and womb of Mary.  
We will not find it elsewhere  
... For WE need Mary's heart to hear the Word,  
So, with St. Paul, we can "believe with our hearts". <sup>6</sup>  
Similarly, we need Mary's womb, to nurture the Word  
... For the Spirit who lives and moves there,  
Embodies the Word in our lives,  
Empowering us to proclaim the Word  
– Alive in the womb of OUR hearts.*

## Mary's Pentecost <sup>1</sup>

*In the upper room with the disciples, Mary waited.  
A lifetime before,  
She had already received her PERSONAL Pentecost ...  
The Spirit's "overshadowing", as she conceived Christ.<sup>2</sup>*

*Now, she heartens the disciples  
... Preparing hearts, yearning for the Spirit;  
She leads them  
... To welcome the Spirit's advent WITHIN,  
Within the infant Church  
– An advent, signed in tongues of fire,  
Hovering over each, WITHOUT.*

*Together with Mary,  
These outdoors men, focus WITHIN,  
As the Spirit...*

*Empowers*

*Envisions*

*Enthuses*

*Enables...*

*As Jesus Ascended comes to birth within each  
...Within all, together.*

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Year 1 Prayer Ministry.

1 Poem 291. Taringa Community Brisbane, Aug 1999

2 Lk 1:35

Note. I wrote this poem in the aftermath of my nephew's sudden death...his 'Pentecost'.

## Homecoming Gifts <sup>1</sup>

*Solitude is a special gift of homecoming:  
While we never come home to God alone,  
Together, in Spirit,  
We each need to still our heart, our whole person  
– So we can rejoice in the Breath of the Spirit  
Coupled to the RHYTHM of our heartbeat.  
Here, in the special embrace of the Spirit,  
We gently, joyfully, become aware of many others  
United, in Christ, WITHIN US,  
“Members, one of another”.<sup>2</sup>*

*Together, we celebrate ‘my-our’ homecoming,  
Loving together in joy ...  
In the silence of the deepest mutual acceptance.  
Our crowning gift of homecoming  
Is peacefully being formed into God’s Family  
... On the basis of Jesus’ own relationship to Abba  
“May they be one in us  
– As you are in me  
And I am in you”.<sup>3</sup>*

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Year 1 Prayer Ministry.

1 Poem 292 Taringa Community Brisbane, Aug 1999.

2 Eph 4:25

3 Jn 17:21

## God's World <sup>1</sup>

*As our hearts are stilled through silence,  
We find ourselves at the heart of a world  
That is God's world – generally not our world.*

*God's*

*Is the world of the widow, the orphan, the stranger,  
The world of those ill in body and mind, and of the prisoner.*

*It is GOD DWELLING IN THEIR HEARTS*

*Who invites us*

*To be weak with them,*

*To be needy with them*

*... So as to truly identify with them.*

*It is a world, pregnant with God's compassion!*

*All God asks of us*

*Is to channel this compassion*

*– To be weak, with the weak,*

*To be open to Love's deluge!*

*God's ultimate gift*

*For all,*

*And, in particular, for contemplatives,*

*Is to become poor, weak, non-coping*

*... Perhaps even a prisoner,*

*In God's world.*



## Gifted by the Ungifted <sup>1</sup>

*Let the Spirit*

*Always recall to mind,*

*That we are never –*

*The prime reconcilers,*

*Or the prime givers*

*... Of life.*

*Let the Spirit recall*

*That we are not even good servants,*

*Or trustworthy stewards of the Lord*

*... But a sinful, broken people.*

*Let the Spirit declare*

*That we often need more care*

*Than anyone we care for*

*– Needing to be*

*... Gifted by the wounded*

*... Gifted by the ungifted!*

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1 Poem 294 Star of the Sea Retreat Centre, Yamba, Nov 1999

Note: This was a life-nourishing Retreat of 3 weeks:

Week 1 Family of Origin

Week 2 Sexuality Journey

Week 3 Spirituality Journey

Facilitated by Sr. Ann Hannigan and, for me in week 2, by Fr. Nilon.

## Without Desire <sup>1</sup>

*We discover our true identity ...in prayer,  
– In the prayer of being OPEN  
To the spontaneous movements of the Spirit of God  
Within our spirits.  
In this encounter,  
Our Abba creates the very imagery  
Which opens us up to Him  
...To all aspects of the PERSON of His Beloved Son!*

*Then, as we abandon ourselves, more and more  
In spontaneity in the Spirit,  
The God of all freedom  
Frees us further  
– Surpassing even His Christ-focussed images –  
Drawing us, directly into communion  
With Love itself.*

*Through this communing with Love,  
Our spirits open  
With the Eternal Openness of God.  
In that gifted moment for us,  
God ceases to be Other :  
God draw us into Oneness  
... Without desire  
... Simply one  
... We become love  
... The face of Love  
... Of Jesus Ascended*

## Feeling at Home with Strangers <sup>1</sup>

*Because a time of intimacy often arrives, unbidden,  
As a gift of God's graciousness,  
We can thus experience intimacy  
... At the points of struggle in a relationship  
Or, even at times of complacency.*

*This paradoxical situation arises  
Because OUR thoughts as to a suitable intimacy time  
Quite often runs counter  
To God's estimation  
– Both of a suitably mutual time, and of its importance  
To enhancing the growth of love between us.*

*In a further ironic twist,  
We fail to notice, much less to value intimacy  
Especially intimacy with God,  
– In the little things ... in the routine ...  
In the mundane ... in the ordinary.*

*We become over-accustomed, in our T.V., film world,  
To expect intimacy –  
In life's highlights ... in life's emotional peaks ...  
In times of drama ... or when WE feel emotionally moved,  
Or even, more superficially, when WE'VE scheduled it!*

*Clearly, we need to let our consciousness be re-configured  
By the Spirit of Mystery  
And by the Spirit of Growth and Evolution  
– So, becoming attentive to God's timing,  
And, sensitive to God's promptings,  
Our life of intimacy begins to change.*

*Probably, we notice it first  
In the UNEXPECTED  
... Perhaps, while waiting idly  
In the line-up of a checkout counter.  
Here...using our empathetic imagination,  
And, in response to the Spirit's gentle prompting,  
We may anonymously celebrate God's Presence  
In specific other customers.  
Thus we are able to experience the Spirit's surprising us,  
By simply enjoying  
'Feeling at home with strangers'  
– Enjoying the paradox of warmth with people unknown.*

*Experiencing such ordinary, regular intimacy with others,  
Can become, with God's grace, a template for routine intimacy  
With Abba, Jesus and Loyce.  
It can also help us  
To 'be at home' with our true self  
– Putting aside masks, posturing, and false confidence  
... All of which intensify with sin.  
To do so, is to come home to our vulnerabilities,  
And to our deepened need to trust the other  
... Especially The Intimate Other,  
Who accepts us and loves us  
As we are.*

## O Three Personed Heart <sup>1</sup>

*All Glory be to You,  
O Three-Personed Heart  
Of the universe of our hearts.*

*To You, dearest Abba,  
Mystery of Loving beyond all naming!*

*Through You, Jesus, best of brothers  
... Our divinely faithful Friend!*

*In You Loyce, chameleon Presence within our world,  
Wondrously wedding us together ... IN Jesus Ascended!*

*Dearest Spirit,  
In animating this Circle of Love  
Be, for us, the power of our prayer  
– Moving loving hearts to self-surrender,  
Within the Paschal Jesus  
... The praying heart of humanity.*

*Dearest Spirit,  
Fire our spirits  
To open to what Abba desires of us  
– For You, Yourself, enable Abba’s Dream within us,  
Aligning our desires, with His.*

*Dearest Spirit  
Create the gift of attentive awe within us:  
Let our spirit sing with fondest love, of our adorable Abba!  
BCreate heartfelt thanks – a beloved Son’s thanks – within us!  
Embrace us, in Jesus Ascended, with Abba’s encompassing blessings.*

## Warmly Welcoming the Word <sup>1</sup>

*When the whisper of the Word  
Emerges in our consciousness  
... So obviously AT HOME in our world ...  
Give it the warmest of all welcomes!  
Welcome it with special immediacy :  
Let your spirit flow  
With graciousness and thankfulness.  
For the Word seeks again to be enfleshed  
Personally in your humanity.  
He yearns to share His wisdom  
... Selecting out some form of words,  
From your outer circumstances,  
To give Divine Emphasis to His message, within.*

*Honour this adorable Word of Abba  
... Personally yearning to share, heart to heart ...  
As would Jesus – sitting alongside of us,  
Gazing at Galilee's water ...  
As it cools our feet on a hot summer's day.  
=Pause=  
Pause with Him ...  
And let peace wash into your soul ...  
Feel free to chat to Your God ...*

*But dare not treat this Divine Speaker within,  
As another idea, as one more holy thought  
– As just another reality alongside others!  
No!  
He is Eternal Reality specially meant for us :  
Abba's dearest Desire for us,  
Jesus' brotherly Revelation to us,  
The Spirit's empowering Enlightenment in us  
... God, eager within us!*

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<sup>1</sup> Poem 298 Star of the Sea Retreat Centre, Yamba, Nov 1999. Week 3  
See NOTE. Poem 294.

## Fasting : Spiritualizing the Body <sup>1</sup>

*Longing for the Lord's return  
Is focussed and deepened by fasting.*

*When I eat and drink sparsely,  
I don't talk as much, and I listen more.*

*The temptation to give way  
To the free reign of the flesh  
Is the commonest deception of humanity's tempter.*

*As followers of the simple Jesus,  
We are urged "to seek the things that are above". <sup>2</sup>*

*This spiritual quest is bio-chemically dampened  
By the surfeit of food and drink,  
Or by sexual indulgence.*

*Contrarimise, our spiritual questing is ENHANCED though fasting  
... Especially when wedded to prayer and almsgiving.*

*Moreover, ANY PYHSICAL SURFEIT OF SATISFACTION  
Blunts, even anaesthetizes, the hungers and quests of our higher powers  
... Especially, expressly SPIRITUAL desires and yearnings.*

*Furthermore, this surfeit of satisfaction  
Accelerates other fleshly urges and drives,  
Such as lust, laziness, and lack of eye and tongue control.*



*Paradoxically, the less spiritual we are,  
The more we over-compensate with food and drink  
... Short-circuiting, still further, our spiritual quests.  
This spiralling effect often deepens into compulsive behaviour.  
We end up directing more of our energies to PART of ourselves.*

*Holiness is wholeness ...  
The integration of body, mind, and spirit  
– In the Spirit of Him “who makes all things new”, and thus whole. <sup>3</sup>*

*Our human body needs to become  
The transparent sacrament of Jesus’ Spirit.*

*This embodying-the-Spirit  
Needs always to be accompanied  
By spiritualizing-the-body  
... Both enhanced by fasting.*

*The ‘lightness of being’ achieved by fasting  
Allows scope for the Spirit  
To irradiate one’s being,  
More effectively,  
As a WHOLE.*

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Year 1 Prayer Ministry.

1 Poem 299 Taringa Community Brisbane, Dec 1999.

2 Col 3:1

3 Rev 21:5

# Folio Sixteen

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# Folio Sixteen

## *Poems 300-319*

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- 301 No Face of His Own
- 302 The Spirit's Coaxing
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- 304 Giving Shape to Breath
- 305 Our Trysting Time
- 306 Thanksgiving for a Century of Grace
- 307 Wisdom, Walk Along With Me ... \*
- 308 O Abba, Overflow Our Lives ... \*
- 309 O Abba, Jesus, Loyce ... \*
- 310 Our Life-Giver
- 311 Give Us Praise ... \*
- 312 You re-Commission Us
- 313 Beauty: The Radiance of Love
- 314 The Promise We Rejoice in Today
- 315 Making Thorns Bloom
- 316 Abba Does the Growing
- 317 Bring to Focus, Abba's Face
- 318 Turn Your Spirit Loose
- 319 Strugglers, Stranded, and Strays

\*Meant to be sung

## The Kiss Of God <sup>1</sup>

*The Spirit is the Kiss of God*

*Upon each person*

*... Revealing the person's uniqueness*

*... Highlighting their gifts*

*... Integrating their lives*

*– And filling them with the joy of Paschal Intimacy.*

*Abba kisses each, and all,*

*As His Beloved ...*

*Thereby adopting them as Family*

*– Giving us, even now, a glimpse*

*Of our true identity and dignity*

*... And of our destiny TOGETHER.*

## No Face of His Own <sup>1</sup>

*The Spirit has no face of His own :*

*The Spirit is WHAT HAPPENS*

*When the Father faces me*

*And as I face the Father*

*– In Christ.*

## The Spirit's Coaxing <sup>1</sup>

*Always the Spirit hovers <sup>2</sup>*

*Murmuring over the chaos,*

*Preparing me for the Word*

*... Spoken to, and for me,*

*Within Mystery.*

*To be thus en-Spirited,*

*Is to murmur with the Spirit,*

*To be a conduit for the Spirit's "groanings" <sup>3</sup>*

*To be a mouthpiece for the many 'sounds'*

*The Spirit uses in the struggle*

*To give birth to the Word,*

*Within ourselves or others.*

*All this can surface in one's life*

*Through simple ordinariness :*

*Singing in the shower,*

*Attending to our breathing,*

*Humming snatches of music,*

*Sounding agreement in conversation,*

*Exploring, in wonder or laughter,*

*Or 'body-languaging' emotional tones*

*To life's surprises, changes and encounters.*

*Thus, as a child to a delighting Father,  
I need to shed my controlling adult psyche,  
And be as free, in the Spirit,  
As a babbling toddler  
... YIELDING to the Spirit's coaxing  
Effortlessly, simply, openly, unself-consciously,  
... And LETTING my 'spirit-sounds'  
Flow freely  
– To artlessly prepare for the advent of the Word.*

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Year 1 Prayer Ministry.

1 Poem 302 Taringa Community Brisbane, Dec 1999.

2 Gen 1:2

3 Rom 8:26 (N.A.B.)

## Resonating the Word <sup>1</sup>

*The Word received, personally, in our hearts*

*Mysteriously becomes prophecy*

*... As God's Presence*

*Eternalizes our 'now'*

*– Allowing us to resonate the Word*

*In others' lives.*

*Our very body,*

*Animated by the Spirit,*

*Bodies that Word ...*

*In sign and service to others,*

*In stewardship to the waiting world.*



## Giving Shape To Breath <sup>1</sup>

*How do the Spirit and Word differ?  
The Spirit's expressions are these –  
Its stirrings, moving our emotions,  
Its promptings, guiding our hearts,  
Its suggestions, respecting our freedom,  
Its shaping the mood of a community,  
Its preparing of hearts for the Word,  
Its deepening the sense of Mystery.*

*The Word's more explicit expressions are these :  
Its clear revelations of the new,  
Its revelation of written promises,  
Its detailed, more organized messages,  
Its easily accessible stories and prayer-formulas,  
Its articulated vision and surer sense of direction,  
Its clear and comprehensive teachings,  
Its inspirational exhortations and motivations.*

*It is really the difference between  
A person's breath moving out  
From the lungs, and the guts  
And  
The shape given that breath  
When brain, tongue and lips form a word.*

*Again, the work of the Spirit  
Is like an inspired melody:  
It does not reach its full power  
UNTIL the word of the lyricist ...  
Until the voice of the prophet  
Until the Embodiment of the Word, Jesus,  
PROCLAIMS IT!*

## Our Trysting Time <sup>1</sup>

*Silence provides  
A waiting space, a trysting time  
Wherein Mystery speaks ...  
In hushed tones, to each heart.  
Graced chosen silence allows our spirit  
To be mostly emptied  
Of human chatter and our insistent self-talk.*

*Such silence positively encourages us  
To become sensitive  
To the gentle gifting of the Spirit ...  
As we are drawn into that divine journey,  
Into the realms of our own UNCONSCIOUSNESS  
... To that deeply intimate space  
Wherein the Spirit enfolds our spirit, caressingly.*

## Thanksgiving for a Century of Grace <sup>1</sup>

*Our Spirits swell with heartfelt thanks  
For our 20<sup>th</sup> century's countless, interlacing cascades of grace,  
And especially for all those Spirit-filled openings of heart  
... Touching into Eternal Life!*

*We deeply thank You, O Abba,  
– Both for the graced lives of all who still live on  
... In a world enveloped by Your Love,  
– And for those who have 'passed over,' to Eternity's Reality  
...During this past century of world wars and dehumanizing ideologies.*

*... Yet in a century, also BLEST –  
By deepening human connectedness,  
By visionary leadership  
By the precious spread of equality,  
And by profoundly life-enhancing technologies.*

*May all these lives,  
Past and present,  
COME TOGETHER  
In Christ's Paschal peace and rest,  
WITHIN the Ascensional Embrace of You, our Loving Father.*

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<sup>1</sup> Poem 306 Summer holidays, Gold Coast, New Year's Eve, Jan 31 1999.

NOTE: Written on the last day of the 20<sup>th</sup> century!

## Wisdom, Walk Along With Me <sup>1</sup> \*

*(Walking with Jesus, to meet Abba :)*

*Wisdom, walk along with me,*

*Your Spirit in our company,*

*Also bring humility <sup>2</sup>*

*And our friend, simplicity. <sup>3</sup>*

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Year 2 Prayer Ministry.

1 Poem 307 Summer holidays, Gold Coast, Jan 2000.

\* NOTE: To be sung to a tune of my own.

GENERAL NOTE: On these holidays, I began the composition of a hand-size WALK-BOOK, a book of hymns and poems put to music-for taking on my solo 'prayer-walks'. Sung silently to myself. About half, had original lyrics.

2 'humility' = Mary

3 'simplicity' = St Francis of Assisi, my hero.

**O Abba, Overflow Our Lives** <sup>1</sup> \*

A. As a poem-prayer:

O Abba, overflow our lives with Your Love ...  
Your boundless ever-present Love,  
Your glorious, oceanic Love,  
Your wholly-free, all-powerful Love,  
Your utterly forgiving Love,  
Your ever-constant, freeing Love,  
Your wondrously creative Love,  
Your ever-faithful Covenant Love,  
Your gentle, warm, enrapturing Love,  
Your deeply, deeply, tender Love  
Your one Eternal, peaceful Love ...  
O Abba, overflow our lives with Your Love.

B. As a structured hymn:

- 1 O Abba, overflow our lives ...  
With Your boundless ever present Love,  
    Your boundless ever present Love,  
    Your boundless ever present Love,  
    Your glorious oceanic Love,  
    Your glorious oceanic Love,  
    Your glorious oceanic Love,  
Your glorious oceanic Love.
- 2 O Abba, overflow our lives ...  
With Your wholly-free, all powerful Love  
    Your wholly-free all powerful Love,  
    Your wholly-free all powerful Love,  
    Your wondrously creative Love  
    Your wondrously creative Love,  
    Your wondrously creative Love,  
    Your wondrously creative Love,
- 3 O Abba, overflow our lives ...  
With Your ever-constant, freeing Love,  
    Your ever-constant, freeing Love,  
    Your ever-constant, freeing Love,  
    Your wondrously creative Love,  
    Your wondrously creative Love,  
    Your wondrously creative Love,  
    Your wondrously creative Love.

4     *O Abba, overflow our lives ...*  
      *With Your ever-faithful Covenant Love,*  
          *Your ever-faithful Covenant Love,*  
          *Your ever-faithful Covenant Love.*  
          *Your gentle, warm, enrapturing Love,*  
          *Your gentle, warm, enrapturing Love,*  
          *Your gentle, warm, enrapturing Love,*  
          *Your gentle, warm, enrapturing Love.*

5     *O Abba, overflow our lives ...*  
      *With Your deeply, deeply, tender Love,*  
          *Your deeply, deeply, tender Love,*  
          *Your deeply, deeply, tender Love.*  
          *Your one, Eternal, peaceful Love,*  
          *Your one, Eternal, peaceful Love,*  
          *Your one, Eternal, peaceful Love,*  
          *Your one, Eternal, peaceful Love.*  
      *O Abba, overflow our lives ...*

**O Abba, Jesus, Loyce** <sup>1</sup> \*

*O Yahweh, God Most Holy,  
Let us offer all to You!  
(REPEAT COUPLET)*

*O Abba, Jesus, Loyce* <sup>2</sup>  
*O bring us home to You!  
(REPEAT COUPLET)*

*O Loving, dearest Abba,  
Enrapture us with love!  
(REPEAT COUPLET)*

*O Spirit who enlivens* <sup>3</sup>

*O on us, pour Your love!  
(REPEAT COUPLET)*

*O Mary, loving Mother,  
O make us family!  
(REPEAT COUPLET)*

*O Thomas, Francis, Michael,  
Isaiah and Moses too,  
O Eddy, Cath, and Charlie,  
My guiding models be.* <sup>4</sup>

*O "Jacob" ... also "Is-ra-el" ...  
"Ron" to "Joseph", then to "Tom",  
Simple "Francis", spousal "Isaac",  
- All Your 'heart-names' for my Way!* <sup>5</sup>

*O tender-hearted Eddy,* <sup>6</sup>  
*Help us be THUS, with the poor ;  
(REPEAT COUPLET)*

*O Loving gentle Jesus,  
Keep us pure and childlike ;  
(REPEAT COUPLET)*

*O Jesus, Lamb of Calvary,  
Be with us here, we pray ;  
(REPEAT COUPLET)*

*O Jesus, loving Saviour,  
O make us sin no more!*  
(REPEAT COUPLET)

*O Joyful, peaceful Spirit,  
Re-create, empower us!*  
(REPEAT COUPLET)

*O Loving, dearest Abba  
Enrapture us with love!*  
(REPEAT COUPLET)

*O Abba, Jesus, Loyce  
May we all be one in You!*  
(REPEAT COUPLET)

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Year 2 Prayer Ministry.

1 Poem 309 Summer holidays, Gold Coast, Jan 2000.

\* NOTE: Written to be sung. Tune: O King of Might and Splendour...

Each couplet (sung twice together) form one stanza of "O King of Might and Splendour"

2 "Loyce". My name for the Spirit-formed from the words LOVE, JOY, PEACE-- (LOYCEE).

3 In the Trinitarian context, I have few prayers addressed TO Christ since we pray, IN CHRIST--- our prayer to Abba, or to Loyce, the Spirit.

4 My "guiding models" are (a) St Thomas, the Apostle, my name in religion, (b) St Francis of Assisi, my hero, (c) Michael Coopes, my adult nephew, prematurely deceased, (d) Isaiah, the mystic prophet, (e) Moses, the voice of God's holiness, (f) Eddy---Bl. Edmund Rice, our founder, (g) St Catherine of Siena, my heroine-as a contemplative, (h) Charles de Foucauld, exemplar of the poor Christ, contemplative.

5 God's "heart-names" for me during my life; for a full poetic history of them

See Poem 397, SEVEN NAMES: SEVEN BLESSINGS.

6 Eddy---Bl. Edmund Rice...being "tender-hearted" to the prisoners he regularly visited.



## Our Life-Giver <sup>1</sup>

*Jesus, cross-carrier, pain-bearer, life-giver,  
Loving Abba, from whom all goodness springs  
... Together, let Your Spirit of Salvation  
Free us from the grip of all that is evil  
Within, and without.  
Good Jesus,  
Be OUR cross-carrier, OUR pain-bearer, OUR live-giver!*

## Give Us Praise <sup>1</sup> \*

*Refrain:                    Give us praise, and we will praise You  
                                 Give us love, and we will love You ...  
                                 [Add couplets 1 – 6, in turn]*

1.                    *... Give us faith –  
                         And we will trust in You, O God.*
  
2.                    *... Forgive our sin –  
                         And we will thank You, from our hearts.*
  
3.                    *... Set us free –  
                         And we will thus be free indeed.*
  
4.                    *... Give us life –  
                         And we will offer all to You.*
  
5.                    *... Give us joy –  
                         And we will give it all away!*
  
6.                    *... Give us peace –  
                         And we will rest in You, our God.*

*You Re-Commission Us*<sup>1</sup>

*Loving Jesus,  
In forgiving us our sin,  
You re-commission us ...  
With the promise of Your Grace,  
This reassurance of Your Presence  
Is Your Spirit at work in us  
– Re-configuring us,  
To be another Christ in our world.*

## Beauty : The Radiance Of Love <sup>1</sup>

*Beauty radiates lives ...  
When a good person lives out the simple truth  
Of what it means to be fully human  
– Being receptive to love, giving of love, personifying love.*

*Indeed, the beauty of life, lies only in love,  
If there is no love in us  
– Past or present, God's love, our love,  
The love of all those who give us life –  
Then there will be no beauty in us  
... Nothing to attract the human heart.*

*God is love: therefore the world is beautiful.  
That love which the Spirit creates between us  
Is beautiful,  
And beautifies our lives.  
The 'beautiful people' – the truly beautiful  
Are those who love as Jesus loves.*

*Abba, Jesus, and the Spirit  
Radiate Their Communing Love  
... Love's Beauty ...  
Into the world around us,  
Adorning our lives, uplifting our spirits.  
Think of a morn, radiant after sun showers wash the air  
... Feel the freshness of Eden in your lungs ;  
See the waves roll and rear, uncoil and roil,  
Splaying themselves on the beach they massage  
... Their swishing fingers tracing patterns of beauty,  
Swirling onto the sand, and laced with edges of foam.*

*Yet people – at their best – easily surpass nature’s glories:*

*Quilting the landscapes with variegated crops,  
Greening the desert, sculpting harbours,  
Fashioning into ever new, creative expressions –  
Sound and song and dance,  
Paint and wood and clay,  
Light and space and movement,  
Ideas, images and emotions,  
Sport and other bodily expressions.  
Surpassingly, co-creatively.*

*Couples can entwine their lives and D.N.A.  
Into NEW persons, who also can beautify  
Our world and our life,  
Through radiating love  
– To reflect the Glory of God’s all-enabling love!*

*Once, in straw, lay a babe  
A weak and tender bundle of love,  
Focussing the beauty of creation anew:  
Impressionable, yielding, new with life,  
Calling for love in all those around Him  
... With the timeless smile and ageless innocence of all new-born.*

*He came to us ...  
So humble, so simple, so very human;  
Yet, He came into life to love  
... So the love, so EVIDENT in His Easter rising,  
Might radiate into our lives  
BEAUTIFYING ALL!*

## The Promise We Rejoice In Today <sup>1</sup>

*Abba,  
Because we trust  
In your ETERNAL Love,  
We will have tomorrows ...  
Pregnant with the promise  
Of the Good News  
We rejoice in today ;  
And yesterdays ...  
Guarantors of love fulfilled !*

## Making Thorns Bloom <sup>1</sup>

*Prepare to wear His crown of thorns,  
To receive His gift of peace.  
That peace, issues, not from the absence of conflict,  
But from UNION WITH HIM  
– The Risen, Crucified One  
Who makes thorns bloom ...*

## Abba Does the Growing <sup>1</sup>

*O Fiery Spirit!*  
*Fan to full flame*  
*Our first fervour's*  
*Flickering faith !*

*Fill us*  
*With the passion to proclaim*  
*Your presence*  
*– In EVERY aspect of living.*

*Yet, also steady my heart*  
*To accept*  
*That Abba does the growing*  
*... If we but trust enough*  
*To WAIT.*



## Bring To Focus, Abba's Face <sup>1</sup>

*O Pentecost Spirit,  
During our times of prayer ...  
Breathe Your stillness into our hearts,  
And fill us with the whispers of Your Presence  
... So as to bring to focus  
The Loving Face of Abba  
For all who are, in Christ.*

*With a Son's love, Jesus,  
Move us to pour out our love  
For this tenderest of Fathers,  
And within the beauty of His will for us,  
Let your Spirit of Union  
Enfold our hearts' desires  
Within Abba's !*

## Turn Your Spirit Loose <sup>1</sup>

*Father, as we gather within Your love,  
Challenged by your truth,  
Turn Your Spirit loose !*

*Give Your Beloved's face  
– Eternity's Face impressed within our humanity –  
Focus, for our lives.  
Let the deep feelings of Jesus, our fondest brother,  
Course through our spirits  
– Summoning us to energize  
Humanity's 'lost millions', with Easter hope and purpose !*

*Abba, USE US, that Your Son's longings  
May bear fruit.  
Use our prayers, all contemplative hearts,  
– All Christ-like spirits –  
As AVENUES OF GRACE for these lost ones.  
Thus, use us, to transform their new-found Easter hope  
Into "repentance, for the forgiveness of sins". <sup>2</sup>*

*Abba,  
Turn Your Spirit loose  
– Using our spirits, to en-Spirit these lost ones  
So that, with their consent,  
We can say, with Jesus,  
"They were dead, and have come to life,  
They were lost and have been found" ! <sup>3</sup>*

## Strugglers, Stranded, And Strays <sup>1</sup>

*Jesus, it is we –*

*The strugglers,*

*The stranded,*

*And the strays ...*

*Whom You invite –*

*Within your heart*

*Inside Your “inner chamber” <sup>2</sup>*

*... Your chamber of love ...*

*Into the HOME of Your Spirit .*

# Folio Seventeen

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# Folio Seventeen

## *Poems 320-399*

- 320 Virtues, As Companions
- 321 I Give to You Jesus
- 322 Unite Me More to Abba
- 323 O Jesus, Good Jesus, Welcome
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- 337 Isaac !
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- 339 The Whole Person

## Virtues, As Companions <sup>1</sup>

*Humble hearts provide  
Room for God inside ...*

*Patience employ :  
Your harvest is joy!*

*Compassion will bring  
Bruised spirits, new spring ...*

*While lust will beget  
A train of regret,  
Pure love will release  
Deep blessings of peace...*

## I Give to You, Jesus <sup>1</sup>

*Jesus, You have given the fullness of Yourself to me,  
Now open my heart that I may give all to you :*

*Enable me now to give You my body,  
That I may be chaste, and responsive to Your Spirit.*

*Enable me to surrender my spirit to You,  
That I may think, and feel, and image life – as you would.*

*Enable me to abandon my heart to You,  
That I may always choose to love You.*

*Enable me to give You every breath I breathe,  
That all outcomes, especially the ultimate one for me, be Yours.*

*Let me always be able to say WITH You, Jesus,  
“Into Your hands, Abba, I entrust my spirit”. <sup>2</sup>*

## Unite Me More to Abba <sup>1</sup>

*Jesus, please unite me more to Abba,  
Your Father, and mine!  
In this embrace, I tenderly ask both of You,  
To fill me, to overflowing,  
With Your Spirit!*

*Thus, humbly ALIVE in Your Love ...  
Free me, enthuse me, empower me –  
To breathe forth this Spirit  
Gently into others,  
Into all who wait  
... In hurt, in hope,  
Open-heartedly ...  
For love to re-vitalize their lives.  
Truly, the Glory of Abba,  
Is a people fully alive! <sup>2</sup>*

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Year 2 Prayer Ministry.

1 Poem 322 Taringa Community Brisbane, Aug 2000.

2 Cf. St Irenaeus, 2<sup>nd</sup> Century.



## O Jesus, Good Jesus, Welcome <sup>1</sup>

*O Jesus, good Jesus, welcome ...  
A thousand times welcome into my heart.  
Let me feel, right at home, within You.  
I really love and thank You, Jesus.  
Thanks for uniting me to You in this special way.*

*I'm overawed in Your Presence  
... O Divine brother!  
You make me feel uniquely connected to God !  
I'm just not worthy  
Of such wondrous intimacy !  
So I can never thank you enough :  
Your whole presence  
Is total Eternal Gift !*

## Jesus, Enfold Us Tenderly <sup>1</sup>

*Jesus, enfold us tenderly  
Within the life-giving embrace of Abba.*

*Jesus, LOVE Abba, with OUR hearts!  
Surrender to Him, OUR wills...*

*Enlighten us, in Your wisdom,  
With the simple insights of Your Spirit.*

*And gather us together, out of our differences,  
To humbly celebrate OUR KIND-NESS,  
In You.*

## Faith's Courage <sup>1</sup>

*The God of Life*

*Urges us to a 'faith-that-does-justice'. <sup>2</sup>*

*With that 'URGE' we call the Holy Spirit!*

*Jesus, who is our Life, <sup>3</sup>*

*Invites us to embrace a courage and boldness*

*Which banishes FEAR,*

*The most powerful enemy of faith ...*

*"Why are you AFRAID, you of LITTLE faith?" <sup>4</sup>*

*Faith releases ITS OWN gift of courage*

*– Particularly when we encounter injustice*

*... Urged on by the Spirit!*

## Gospel Poverty, Chastity and Obedience <sup>1</sup>

*Living out Gospel POVERTY allows us*

*To unlock the potential*

*For the Spirit's gift of UNLIMITED OPENNESS to God and, to others.*

*This psychological gift of SIMPLICITY*

*Enables us to DETACH ourselves*

*From identifying*

*With what we possess, access and rely on.*

*In doing so, we become increasingly open*

*To GOD'S REALITY !*

*Living out Gospel CHASTITY allows us*

*To unlock the potential*

*For the Spirit's gift of UNLIMITED INTIMACY with God, and others.*

*This psychological gift of TRUST*

*Enables us to REND ourselves,*

*From clinging to one's own sense of self, or clinging to creatures*

*... So as to SURRENDER ourselves,*

*Our deepest inner-selves,*

*To God's LIMITLESS LOVING !*

*In doing so we become witnesses to the self-less love – of Christ.*

*Living our Gospel OBEDIENCE allows us  
To unlock the potential  
For the Spirit's gift of UNLIMITED REVERENCING of God's good will.  
This psychological gift of DEPENDENCE  
Enables us to COMMIT ourselves  
To accepting that 'all is gift':  
That we BECOME ourselves  
Through God, and through others.  
In doing so, we treasure all that God is, in us,  
And God's every desire for us!*

## Our Estranged God <sup>1</sup>

*As in the Bible,  
The stranger among us,  
Often turns out to be the one  
Who brings us to God.  
Jesus Himself  
Found God ... the Presence of His own Abba-Yahweh...  
In the stranger, the Syro-Phoenician woman,  
And in the estranged, shunned leper, forced outside the town.  
Similarly, Francis of Assisi discovered  
That, in kissing the leper, his lips met Christ's!*

*Both Jesus and Francis found  
That, in God's world ...  
By identifying with the lepers,  
They were, themselves, increasingly marginalized  
– Made to feel like shunned outsiders  
... In effect, becoming lepers! <sup>2</sup>*

*But Jesus' yesterdays  
Are our todays ...  
And, for us now,  
Jesus is the stranger, 'the estranged one',  
– The outsider we shy away from  
... Shockingly, in OURSELVES,  
As much as in others !*

## God's Gift - of - the - Moment <sup>1</sup>

*Our hands are OPEN ...*

*Upraised in prayer,*

*Ready to receive ...*

*Ready to give ...*

*All we can thus offer*

*In love to Abba,*

*Is what Abba chooses*

*To place in our hands,*

*At this very moment !*

*This most relevant of gifts,*

*Is all we can now offer*

*To our needy neighbour :*

*God's gift-of-the-moment.*

---

<sup>1</sup> Poem 328 Day 1, 8day RETREAT, Douglas Park, Sydney, Oct 2000.  
Sr. Yvonne Parker, SGS was my director.

## The Deepest Familiarity with God <sup>1</sup>

*The Annunciation*

*Declares 'Our world is with child'*

*– Because of the consent of a teenage girl !*

*The teenage Mary's deepest instincts*

*Allowed her to trust ...*

*That the luminously enthusiastic stranger before her*

*Truly en-personed*

*Yahweh's own mysterious, wondrous desires*

*– Even if they seemed, to all appearances,*

*Scandalous and bewildering !*

*Only the deepest familiarity with God's Presence,*

*In her childhood and teens,*

*Allowed Mary to trust*

*So unrestrainedly, openly, and simply !*

---

<sup>1</sup> Poem 329 Day 2, 8day RETREAT, Douglas Park, Sydney, Oct 2000.



## The Spirit Dream <sup>1</sup>

*The Spirit Dream in the depths of our heart,  
Gives birth to our deep dreams.*

*These dreams are but water-colour-washes  
Relative to Christ's vivid clear-eyed vision for each.  
Our deep dreams are GIFTS from the Spirit Dream  
– "Gifts to His beloved as they slumber." <sup>2</sup>*

*The spirit of evil, however, can even tarnish this dream realm  
– Tainting it by ambivalent suggestion and insinuation.*

*But, be certain –*

*Christ's radiant Easter Presence*

*Has ALREADY vanquished these phantoms of the night :*

*Within, He stands –*

*The radiant still point of our swirling hopes,  
The anchor for our fickleness, the bedrock of our confidence.*

*The Spirit Dream works Christ's wonders*

*In those of humble heart*

*...Whose hearts are opened wide in trust ...*

*Creatively fashioning –*

*Paschal-like reveries of hope,*

*Marvels of Godly delight and desire,*

*Evocative invitations to forgiveness,*

*Experiences of profound communion*

*– All offers of surpassing beauty*

*Spangled with symbols of love !*

*To capture and focus the evanescent energy*

*Of these deep dreams ...*

*To have them highlight our everyday living ...*

*To realize and to fulfil these dream aspirations ...*

*Is to sensitively open our daytime hearts*

*To the Spirit's ENABLING GRACE.*

---

1 Poem 330 Day 2, 8day RETREAT, Douglas Park, Sydney, Oct 2000.

2 Ps 127:2 (Grail)

## Graced Human Dignity <sup>1</sup>

*Adopted in Christ, the Beloved,  
Little by little, “grace upon grace”, <sup>2</sup>*

*We come to resemble  
The One of whom we dream ...  
The One in whom we live!*

*Indeed, our life of faith  
Is a cumulative transfiguration  
Into the One*

*We are destined to BECOME, ever more fully  
– “He who is the reflection of God’s glory,  
And the exact imprint of God’s very being”, <sup>3</sup>  
– He “who loved us and sacrificed Himself for our sake”. <sup>4</sup>*

*Thus, by being “transformed to His image” <sup>5</sup>  
We also need, and are enabled,  
To ‘love others, and to sacrifice ourselves for them’. <sup>6</sup>*

---

1 Poem 331 Day 3, 8 day RETREAT, Douglas Park, Sydney, Oct 2000.

2 Jn 1:16

3 Heb.1:3

4 Gal 2:20

5 2Cor 3:18

6 cf Gal 2:20

## Humble and Creative Relationships <sup>1</sup>

*Jesus,*

*Humanity's humblest and, thus, most down-to-earth person,*

*– “LEARN from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart” – <sup>2</sup>*

*Is also its most creative:*

*“For in Him were created, ALL things in heaven and on earth”. <sup>3</sup>*

*In marking out a way for us to follow*

*– “Learn from me” – <sup>4</sup>*

*Jesus wants us also to be humble and creative*

*In all our relationships.*

*And He also tells us HOW to be so ...*

*“If anyone wants to be a follower of mine*

*Let him RENOUNCE HIMSELF,*

*And TAKE UP HIS CROSS, EVERY DAY,*

*And follow me”. <sup>5</sup>*

---

1 Poem 332 Day 3, 8 day RETREAT, Douglas Park, Sydney, Oct 2000.

2 Mt 11:29, Cf. Nm 12:3

3 Col 1:16

4 Mt 11:29

5 Lk 9:23

## Beacon of the Good News <sup>1</sup>

O *“Word of God from the Spirit,  
To be used as a sword”,* <sup>2</sup>  
– *A sword of truth*  
– *A double-edged weapon*  
*Of humility and courage –*  
*Pierce my hidden pride*  
*... The core of my self-deception ...*  
*And let flow forth, unstemmed,*  
*Your inner streams of light !*

*Let this light*  
*First illuminate, and purify my life,*  
*So that I become*  
*One more beacon of the Good News*  
*... Of Jesus Crucified and Ascended !*

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<sup>1</sup> Poem 333 Day 3, 8 day RETREAT, Douglas Park, Sydney, Oct 2000

<sup>2</sup> Eph 6:17

## God's Arms, Outstretched In Welcome <sup>1</sup>

*God waits ...*

*God waits ...*

*Waits, with outstretched arms,*

*Arms, outstretched in welcome !*

*But then,*

*Waits no longer !*

*And runs ...*

*Runs!*

*Runs, with outstretched heart,*

*To embrace us,*

*To kiss us.*

## I Surrender My Decision-Making <sup>1</sup>

*Lord of my heart !*  
*To You, I surrender my decision-making*  
*About the needs of my life.*  
*In Your love, anticipate all my needs*  
*– Firstly, by revealing to me,*  
*The treasures I already possess,*  
*And, for the rest, delight me with Your Spirit of Surprise !*

**Surrender** <sup>1</sup>

*O Abba, love of my life,*

*I breathe You in ...*

*I drink in the sound of Your whisperings ...*

*I hunger for Your fragrance ...*

*– I surrender to You ...*

*Your Kiss ... is love's homecoming*

*Your murmured intimacies ... love's peace*

*Your enveloping Breath ...life in You*

*– O Abba !*



Isaac ! <sup>1</sup>

*Abba 'smiled on' Tom* <sup>2</sup>

*In October days ...*

*Sun-shining with the joys of Jubilee,* <sup>3</sup>

*Moistened with the tears*

*Of a prodigal's joyous return :* <sup>4</sup>

*"To 'Tom', be added 'Isaac'*

*– To Christen this time, new begun"*

*... When Abba 'smiled on' Tom.*

---

1 Poem 337 Day 5, 8 day RETREAT, Douglas Park, Sydney, Oct 2000.

NOTE: "Following the writing of Poem 337, today, I had this deep sense of Abba adding to the names of my life—'Ron' and 'Gregory', being my baptism names, 'Joseph', my Confirmation name, 'Tom', my Congregational or Habit Day name. I sensed 'Isaac' was the name given to mark that deeper sense of intimacy with Abba, Jesus, and Loyce, into which I had been drawn."—Author.

2 In Hebrew, 'Isaac' means 'God smiles'

3 This year, 2000 A.D., was the Church's Jubilee Year.

4 Written with Poem 334, Day 4, in mind.

## A Lantern Lit Within <sup>1</sup>

*Each person in touch with God,  
Is a lantern lit within :  
What lights their spirit  
Is incandescent Love.  
This lustrous light, shining on others  
Reveals itself in constant kindness.*

## The Whole Person <sup>1</sup>

*There are none so deaf and blind  
As the self-righteous.  
How easily the ugly 10% of others' lives  
Becomes the most of what they focus on :  
So much human beauty lies hidden  
From those who don't want to see ...  
Who focus, only selectively,  
On PART of the other.*