

Christmas Presence

I love Thomas Merton!
I find his words so refreshing and enlightening.

‘ Make ready for the Christ,
Whose smile, like lightening,
Sets free the song of everlasting glory
That now sleeps, in your paper flesh,
like dynamite’
- The Victory

We are celebrating the glorious arrival of our saviour, Jesus Christ.
He arrived in humble circumstances into human life. With His emergence,
His holy birth, we receive revelations of the supernatural, made in in the life of an
outsider.

‘Christ is a Light to lighten the Gentiles.’ He is the Light of The World.

Evelyn Underhill (*Anglican mystic and writer*) writes;

‘The Light of the World is not the sanctuary light in our favourite church..’

Our liturgy calls out: ‘Reveal among us the light of your presence, that we may
behold your power and glory’

Beholding that glory is only half our job. We must allow that light to penetrate and
illuminate our souls. An ‘Eternal Birth’ (Erckhart) must take place.

Sometimes our human nature is too often inhabited by passion and prejudice. It
doesn’t compare with Christ’s simple poverty and self abandonment to God.

‘The birth of Christ in us is a purpose beyond ourselves’

We say in our liturgy: ‘Strengthen our hands to do your will that the world may
rejoice and give you praise’

As we move towards Epiphany, let us catch and reflect His golden light.

‘Ye are a light to the world’, but only because we have been made radiant by the One
Light of the World.

Being kindled in such a way we have to get on with it.
Christ said, do not light a candle and stick it under the bed..!
(*Mark 4:21*)

You will recall those moments when we look on ourselves as being useless, think instead of the Baby boy, in a stable in Nazareth. The very life was there which was to change the whole history of the human race.

May the Lord come to us illuminating and revealing our new and true selves, through Him.

May we too, see the goodness in everyone, and learn to be present in the moment, right here and right now.

‘Loving God, help us
to have the courage
to awaken to the greater truth,
greater humility and greater care for one another.’

- *Richard Rohr*.

In the Glorious, Wonderful Light and Love of our Saviour, Jesus Christ.
AMEN.