

Module Ten

The Fourth Week

READ

⇒ Pages 235-255 of 'The Ignatian Adventure' by Kevin O'Brien SJ

Excerpt from:

That Nature is a Heraclitean Fire and of the comfort of the Resurrection

.....Enough! the Resurrection,
A heart's-clarion! Away grief's gasping, joyless days, dejection.

Across my foundering deck shone

A beacon, an eternal beam. Flesh fade, and mortal trash

Fall to the residuary worm; world's wildfire, leave but ash:

In a flash, at a trumpet crash,

I am all at once what Christ is, since he was what I am, and

This Jack, joke, poor potsherd, patch, matchwood, immortal diamond,

Is immortal diamond.

Source: Gerard Manley Hopkins: Poems and Prose (Penguin Classics, 1985)

MAXIMS

Maxim 1: It takes humility to be surprised.

Maxim 2: The spiritual life is not about predictability or productivity or stability it is essentially about living with mystery and the mysterious.



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Gitanjali

Leave off this Chanting

Rabindranath Tagore

Leave this chanting and singing and telling of beads! Whom dost thou worship in this lonely dark corner of a temple with doors all shut? Open thine eyes and see thy God is not before thee!

He is there where the tiller is tilling the hard ground and where the pathmaker is breaking stones. He is with them in sun and in shower, and his garment is covered with dust. Put off thy holy mantle and even like him come down on the dusty soil!

Deliverance? Where is this deliverance to be found? Our master himself has joyfully taken upon him the bonds of creation; he is bound with us all forever.

Come out of thy meditations and leave aside thy flowers and incense! What harm is there if thy clothes become tattered and stained? Meet him and stand by him in toil and in sweat of thy brow.

