

'A Star Spark of Thought Leaps Between Synapses'

Reflection for Week of July 27, 2020

O Word of God, open our minds and transform our hearts so that we see the amazing potential for newness and wonder in every encounter and conversation -- especially as we live through this time of great upheaval.

Suggested Music: [O Word of God – Ricky Manalo \(click here\)](#)

Generous Listening

A conversation can be a contest,
or a game of catch with invisible balloons.
They bounce between us, growing and shrinking,
sometimes floating like cloud medicine balls,
and sometimes bowling at us like round anvils.
You toss a phrase and understanding blooms
like an anemone of colored lights.
My mind fireworks with unasked questions.
Who is this miracle speaking to me?
And who is this miracle listening?
What amazingness are we creating?
Out of gray matter a star spark of thought
leaps between synapses into the air,
and pours through gray matter, into my heart:
how can I not listen generously?

-- Marilyn Nelson



Mary set out for a Judean city in the hill country. She went into Zechariah's home and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the baby jumped in her womb. Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and she loudly exclaimed, "How blessed are you among women, and how blessed is the infant in your womb! Why should this happen to me, to have the mother of my Lord visit me? As soon as the sound of your greeting reached my ears, the baby in my womb jumped for joy. How blessed is this woman who believed that what the Lord told her would be fulfilled!" -- Luke 1:39-45



For Your Reflection:

Recall a moment when you experienced a spark or a leap of life within you during a conversation in these recent months. What might that recollection be inviting you to consider today?

What practice can you bring into your life that helps you stay open to perceiving the miracles that are contained in every conversation, every encounter?

Concluding Prayer

O Word of God, send us your grace so that we enter every encounter ready to experience miracles.
O Word of God, show us your truth so that we see and believe in the amazingness we can create each day.
Amen.