

Benvenuto

Welcoming the Beauty of Other Cultures into Lent

Lent most often encompasses all of March! Although Lent sometimes leads us inward, I believe it can invite us to expand our hearts into new conversions! As I look at my calendar, I notice that the following feasts occur during March: Purim (Jewish), Holi (Hindu) and Naw-Ruz (Persian New Year). I don't know anything about Holi or Naw-Ruz and it might be fun to research them in the library and thus increase my awareness. At this point I caught myself and asked, How many beautiful cultures are right around me every day that I know nothing about?

Wilkommen

Bienvenue

I have had cultural awakenings resulting from trips to Cameroon and Taiwan. I wonder what Jesus might be holding out to me for reflection this Lenten season. And what of your cultural experiences, what might Jesus be holding out to you?

- A friend is Italian in a German community ... what tradition is sacred to her that I know nothing about?
- A neighbor is Muslim ... why was Ramadan sacred to her?
 - A Mexican friend told me the story of how Santo Nino de Atocha brought water and bread to prisoners and his basket and jug never went empty ... can that have an impact on my life?

歓迎

Bienvenido

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I wonder if we aren't being invited this Lent to treasure the sacred mystery of someone we see everyday, which could lead to our participation in the expansion of our own hearts!

Might we find ourselves more like rather than different from our Persian, Jewish or Hindu brothers and sisters? I hope so! What about you?

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