



MERCY
GLOBAL
PRESENCE

Artistic Response: Presence to Earth

Carmel Bracken rsm (The Congregation): 'A 2020 Vision'

Earth has been sending us
Alarming distress signals
For many years now
Calling us to awaken
And change our ways.

For a multitude of reasons
We looked away
Unable or unwilling
To halt business as usual
Though knowing deep within
That we had disrupted nature's capacity
To create conditions conducive
To all of life.

What if 2020 is truly offering us
The gift of clearer vision ?
What if the invisible Covid 19 virus
Is making visible
The invisible viruses
Held within an outdated worldview
Viruses that are the root causes
Of global problems and catastrophes.

The virus of thinking we are separate from nature
The virus of believing we can control her
The virus of believing she is a machine
That we can manipulate.
The virus of thinking she is a dead thing
We can mine and frack at will?

What if the coronavirus pandemic
Is apocalyptic in its deeper meaning?
A revelation and unveiling.
A lifting of the veil
Of all that has been hidden

A lens bringing into focus
What we need to let go of
So a better world can emerge
A world that enables the flourishing
Of the whole community of life.

Our 14 billion year evolutionary journey
Has always been punctuated by jump times
When crises have been drivers for
Extraordinary change and creativity
Pushing life toward greater complexity
Increased diversity and connectivity
And deeper levels of consciousness .

NOW is our jump time.

As we emerge from this strangely surreal time
The quality of our **presence to earth**
May well determine whether we earthlings
Make it through this jump time.

May we know her
As our teacher and mentor
Valuing what we can learn from her
Not what we can extract from her.

May we look to her as Source
Not resource
Knowing she is the sacred matrix
In which we are all embedded
And upon whom we profoundly depend.

May we become re-enchanted with nature
Knowing earth as a living spiritual being
Trusting the Divine intelligence
That is in everything
Opening to her alchemical powers
Of transformation and healing.

As we become present to her energies
Pulsing through us
May we discover that the
Light in our own depths is
A spark of the world soul
The *Anima mundi*

As we deepen our ability
To be present to earth
May we know that everything
Is an expression
Of a Oneness that is dynamically alive.

May we learn to communicate with
The consciousness of Earth
And all sentient beings.
Truly sensing that
we are cosmic stuff
embedded in the ecology
of the Whole
Thus becoming a gateway
for the presencing of the Whole
allowing the fire of creation to burn
and enter the world through us
Enabling the next step of evolution