17th Sunday in Ordinary Time July 28-29, 2018

Note that these reflections can be found in Word and pdf at www.catholichawaii.org/inserts

Questions, Comments Suggestions? Contact Kristina kdeneve@rcchawaii.org or 808-203-6767

Living Catholic in the 808: My Fourth and Walnut Moment Part II

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"In Louisville, at the corner of Fourth and Walnut...I was suddenly overwhelmed with the realization that I loved all those people, that they were mine and I theirs, that we could not be alien to one another even though we were total strangers. It was like waking from a dream of separateness, of spurious self-isolation in a special world" Thomas Merton, Conjectures of a Guilty Bystander

Last week, I shared my own "Fourth and Walnut" moment, the time I became aware that we are all one – we are connected at our deepest core, not divided.

How has this experience changed me? Well, unlike before, where the world revolved around me and whatever I was focused on at any given moment, now God regularly and routinely "bonks me on the head" with reminders that the "other" is actually my other self – they are me and I am them. God won't let me forget!

Hopefully, my experience has made me less judgmental, less likely to see myself as "better" than others. And it has definitely made me more grateful for my blessings and so much more aware that I've done nothing to deserve a home, a car, a job, my health, people who love me.

How has God woken you from your "dream of separateness?" How has this experience changed you?