Justice, Peace and Integrity of Creation

From the St. Francis of Assisi JPIC Committee (Mike, Marion, Maureen, Charlie & Garry) July, 2017

The Delight of Diversity

We open with a brief reading from Scripture: "In my Father's house are many mansions." (John 14:2)

Prince Edward Island is rapidly becoming more multi-cultural and that brings challenges and opportunities.

One of the wonderful things to be found in the classic naming of God as Father, Son and Holy Spirit is its affirmation that there is a plurality to goodness. Goodness isn't sameness.

Goodness, to be goodness, needs contrast and tension, not perfect uniformity.

Father, Son and Holy Spirit are all God, yet clearly different.

We embrace this differentiation, and we resist the temptation to blend them into some kind of blob.

In doing so, we understand that there are at least three shapes to the foundational goodness, truth and beauty of things.

It seems to me that God's goal is the same in creation.
It is the making of persons, not the making of a uniform mob.
This means that there is a clear diversity and a kind of open-mindedness in all of nature.

In other words, heaven is precisely not uniformity.

The diversity of heaven was never something I considered in my earlier years. I thought we were all handed the same white robe and standard-issue harp, and we were all assigned to an identical cloud for all of eternity.

But how does Jesus himself deconstruct this big-box, McHeaven franchise?

He tells us: "In my Father's house are many mansions." (John 14:2)

(adapted from Richard Rohr Daily Meditation of September 20, 2016