

The meeting was held on Tuesday 5/7.

We started with an opening prayer from Michael Mack by Thomas Merton. It was a very moving prayer and fit right into our faith journey.

You can find The Prayer of Thomas Merton at: <https://thereseborchard.com/the-prayer-of-thomas-merton/#:~:text=My%20Lord%20God%2C%20I%20have,I%20am%20actually%20doing%20so>

We all decided that Thomas Merton would be a great topic for a future meeting.

Most of our discussion tonight focused on chapter 11 written by Sister Helena Burns. We talked about the important and critical role that nuns play in bringing Christian values and teachings to the world. Jimmy called them the "Special Forces" of our faith.

Les brought up the phrase "infused knowledge" that Sister Burns mentioned on page 86 of "Beautiful Eucharist" which led to a very long and deep discussion from all on the meaning of this phrase and what we each thought about it. How is this like/different from an "awakening" within us that we arrive at about our faith and about Jesus in our spiritual search and growth.

Chapter 12 by Matt Warner also brought about a lot of discussion in the group especially his paragraphs on imagination and as Christian our imagination is used not to see things that are not real but as Matt Warner states in truth "for seeing things that are most real" as the presence of Jesus in the Eucharist. Imagination in this sense can also be a synonym for Faith.

We discussed apologetics (defense of the faith) and how that word became used by the Catholic Church and who we thought were some of the great apologetics of our faith. Along with this topic we discussed Ignatian spirituality.

We reviewed the image that Michael spoke about when he distributes the Eucharist. It is taking the Body of Christ and placing it into the tomb of each person and then us being renewed by its presence inside of us. Distributing the Eucharist can also be seen as placing Jesus inside us as he is inside His tabernacle on the altar.

Since May is the month of Mary, we will discuss the 2 Marian handouts from our meeting.

I attached the handouts for those who could not join us tonight.

Our next meeting will be Tuesday May 21 at 6 PM in the church hall.

Blessings, Norbert