

## *Embracing The Darkness*

Why is it that we should fear the darkness? Is it that we fear the unknown, that which we cannot see or understand? Do we fear what might come from the unknown, the unfamiliar, the uncomfortable?

In darkness we fear that things will be darker, harder, troublesome and harmful to ourselves. The reality is that we don't even know what the darkness contains, it is a rumor, a tale and a fabrication. It is fear that preys upon our ability to discern what is beauty and what is not. It is our fear of the unknown that makes the darkness appear to be something it is not. Darkness does not equal evil. Evil is only the result of indifference. And it is in our indifference and fear to the darkness that make it appear to be evil. So what then is contained in the darkness if it is not evil?

**“Everything has its wonders, even darkness and silence, and I learn, whatever state I may be in, therein to be content.” Helen Keller**

In the darkness there is great peace, no artificial lights, nothing is dirty, nothing is out of place; in the darkness one can find an escape from the world around, in which we can better delve into the depths of our relationship with God. The darkness is often without distraction, a space where we can commune with God at a deeper level. God can be found in the deep dark recesses of our hearts, but because they remain unsearched, we fear the unknown of our own hearts. And it is there in the dark depths of our hearts that God longs to bring about the greatest beauty.

But most importantly, within the darkness of our world, is where those who are lost, hurt and suffering reside. There is a comfort to the darkness, where they can hide from the cruel and indifferent hearts of the world. Sadly it is those indifferent hearts that force them to hide from the cold hypocrisy and stench of rotting souls, who are too afraid to embrace those who hide within the darkness.

**“There is no darkness  
but ignorance.”  
William Shakespeare**

*Father,  
help us to embrace the peace of darkness,  
may we dwell within its rich beauty  
and embrace those who hide there from the coldness of the world.  
The light of Christ, shines so bright in the darkness,  
in the warmth of a smile, and in a longing embrace.  
Show us that in darkness there is great beauty and light  
beyond our fear of the unknown.  
May we adventure ever deeper into the dark richness of our hearts.*

*AMEN*