by Fr. SEAN ÓLAOIRE, PHD - 2017 VOLUME 8

The Infant of Now

Her mother tells me she is five weeks old, but she fits comfortably in the hollow of my hand. She has no idea of time, so, she came two months early.

Π

She has an eternal past but she remembers none of it. She has an endless future yet she is not concerned about it. Rather, she is fully present to this precious present moment; a present, indeed, from God.

III

I gently kiss her wrinkled little brow, and she responds with a beatific, toothless, pink smile. She is the infant of now. Is she, perhaps, another Christ child? Weren't we all? What happened?

IV

So many present moments hijacked by guilt and anger, from the past; or derailed by anxiety or fear, of the future.

So many precious present moments sitting like cold food on an untouched plate, as we starve mindlessly while regretting the food we never got, and lusting for meals we'll never see.

V

VI

So much have you got to teach us, little pink, wrinkled, Christ child. Help us to smile. Now.

Namasté,

Seán

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Creative Direction: Fr. Seán ÓLaoire, PhD. Photoshop Assistant:Kenny Hayes. Images: Pixabay.com.