

Wilderness Words



Spirit of the Wilderness

Weekly News—May 19, 2011

Vicar Notes:

It's hard not to feel a certain amount of unholy glee at the news of the arrest and jailing of the head of the International Monetary Fund. Here's someone who is so powerful, rich, and famous, who seems to think of himself as so far above the law—who suddenly falls so far, while his relatively powerless, poor accuser sees some justice.

When I heard Strauss-Kahn had been put on a suicide watch, I was struck by the shock and anguish he must be feeling at the public humiliation and lack of freedom. "But," I found myself thinking, "this could turn out to be the best day of his life....the day he begins to see himself clearly. He could look back on this day and give thanks..."

A great "wake up"—like Paul on the Damascus road doesn't happen often, but it can. And it is more likely to happen to someone when they reach the end of themselves than it is if they're puttering along from one \$3,000 a night hotel suite, one expensive meal, one first class ticket—to the next.

When Paul writes in Romans 8 that all things work together for good, this is how I take it—that no matter what comes our way, God can take that and use it to bring growth and a new beginning.

Still, I guess, rather than hoping that happens to Strauss-Kahn, I'll try to cooperate in God's working in me!

Blessings, + Mary Ellen



This Week:

- **May 21st: Feed My Starving Children** food packing. If you find you have more time at the last minute than you thought, just show up....especially 3-5 and 5:30-7:30 still have openings.
- **May 25th: Bishop's Committee meeting**—if you have items you believe should be on the agenda, please contact Lee, Rolf or Mary Ellen with them.
- **Deepening Roots: A Course for Formation.** (Offered by WindCradle.) This course, for people who would like to grow deeper in their knowledge of the Old and New Testaments as well as their theological understanding of various issues, will meet once a month Sept.-May at WindCradle. If you have questions, please talk to Mary Ellen. Maximum group size is ten.
- **Anyone wanting to plan a social or a house blessing this month?**