

Office of the Bishop /Bureau de L'Eveque  
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Sunday February 19 2012

*Let us be concerned for each other, to stir a response in love and good works. (Hebrews 10:24)*

Dear brothers and sisters,

This Biblical exhortation to love and to good works is a call into our own mystery, our own depths. We rightly suspect that our wounds are deeper than we think and often hitched to each other all the way back to childhood. It is truly the uncomfortable way we would rather not go. But something tells us it is necessary. "In the desert of the heart let the healing fountain start." Pain needs light. Nothing heals in the dark.

Michael Leunig writes,

*"When the heart is cut or broken,  
Do not clutch it, let the wound lie open.  
Let the wind from the good old sea blow  
To bathe the wound with salt and let it sting."*

"The scars of Jesus, inside and out, were always there for all to see. He let Mary wash them, Thomas touch them, his mother hold them. He openly wept, openly blessed. He mourned losses with others. He was angry in a crowded temple. He carried his cross in public places." Daniel O'Leary The Tablet

In his Lenten message Pope Benedict XVI writes:

*"The Lenten season offers us once again an opportunity to reflect upon the very heart of Christian life: charity. This is a favorable time to renew our journey of faith, both as individuals and as a community, with the help of the word of God and the sacraments. This journey is one marked by prayer and sharing, silence and fasting in anticipation of the joy of Easter."*

Let us display our Ashes on Wednesday determined to face life and love with renewed faith.

Sincerely yours in Christ  
Most Reverend Richard Grecco  
Bishop of Charlottetown