

CONFERENCE THREE

Resources

Go to page 18 for the link to download these resources

HANDOUTS

The Senses of Scripture

| SCRIPTURAL SENSE | HUMAN FACULTY USED | REFERENCE TO THE LIFE OF CHRIST | FUNCTION | PRAYER |
|---|--------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|--|
| 1.Literal Sense Equivalent to when the sacred author wrote the text. FACT | Our bodies | The Incarnation | To arrive at the literal meaning of the text. | <i>Lectio</i> (Reading) |
| 2.Christological Allegorical Sense Similar to when the author reflected on his experience of God. INTUITION | Our Imagination | The Mind of Christ | Contextualizing the meaning and seeing it in the light of Jesus, the Church and self now. | <i>Meditatio</i> (Meditation) |
| 3.Moral Behavioural sense Awareness of our own communion with Christ through personal realization of the Word. COGNITION | Our mind | The Spirit of Christ | The projection of the allegorical sense into our own life. | Oratio |
| 4.Anagogical Mystical Sense Like the original sense the author had of God and revelation CONTUITION | Our spirit and heart | The heart of Christ | Encountering Experiencing God in the text | <i>Contemplatio</i> (Contemplation) |

FOR FURTHER REFLECTION

1. Reflect on the quote from Michael Casey ocso: Our lectio divina should be conducted in such a way that we develop sensitivity to the call of grace. In the beginning the texts which cause us to come alive will usually be of a confirmatory nature. As our sensitivity increases other texts will begin to clamour for our attention, texts which offer challenge rather than comfort. To these also we must learn to submit, knowing that it is in this way that God renews our life Tjurunga 1981

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2. Reflect on what you have learnt about *lectio divina*. What strikes you as important? Write your reflections in your journal.

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3. At this point are you able to make a commitment to devote time to *lectio divina* and make it a priority for your life? If no, reflect on why this is so for you at this time in your life.

