

Martin De Porres House of Hospitality

225 Potrero Avenue
San Francisco, Ca. 94103
Telephone (415) 552-0240

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"i thank you God for most this amazing day; for the leaping greenly spirits of trees and a blue tree dream of sky; and for everything which is natural which is infinite which is yes"

e. e. cummings

Dearest Friends:

In sitting down to reflect on our Easter/Spring newsletter I started by reading all the monthly papers that come in from all over the United States -- the other Catholic Workers: Houston, San Diego, St. Louis, Syracuse, Kansas City, Davenport, on and on. What a difference to read these papers compared with the daily news. Rather than bemoaning the end of the world, the greed, the killings, the hostile and cold, I read of the hope, the charity, the faith, the renewal, the love that those of us see in our daily work and the communities we have found ourselves in.

It came to me that just as love, patience and kindness are virtues, what we might forget from time to time but is just as important is Gratitude. Starting with the gift of life and love given to us by our mothers and fathers, despite the shortcomings we might have felt at times or feel, as well as the senses that have been bestowed on us to see, feel, smell, hear and touch the beauty around us, a world that with all its problems still shines like a beacon of light.

Do we at Martin's tell you our supporters how much we thank you, not only for your financial support, but for your prayers for our guests and workers? Do we tell our workers thank you enough for the work they put in day after day and year after year, making the meals, cleaning the kitchen, being with our guests? Do we thank our guests enough for showing us the way, time after time, in the things they say and do, that give us their wisdom and tell us how much we have to learn?

Do we thank God enough for the miracles that are played out in front of our very eyes if only we would slow down to see. The buds on the tree. The clouds over our heads. The butterflies in the garden. The light of the Sun with the coming of spring.

Yes, there is work to be done. Yes, we all have problems personally and as a community. At this time of rebirth, resurrection, and angels passing over, may we take time to thank each other and God for all we have, and all we have been given. It seems like we can never do enough to repay this goodness called life.

Thank you all.

In God's Light,



Barbara

"LOVE OTHERS AS GOD LOVES YOU"

MOTHER TERESA