

Explore the Theme — DYING . . . DEAD

probing the death “movement” of the paschal mystery “symphony,” through the lens of nature
for other “Explore the Theme” postings visit: <https://www.shcj.org/explore-the-theme>

LETTING GO OF LETTING GO

The flower blooms only briefly,
but so sweetly.
True faith practices grief,
letting go and letting go
of letting go,
anointing our losses with
perfume and tears,
kneeling at the feet of the Beloved
we can't possess or cling to,
trusting that the love that aches
bears us through,
until grief becomes gratitude
and sorrow an open heart,
and loss becomes sowing.
And we behold the blossom.
Only the soul that seeks love
and not happiness
finds joy.
Steve Garnaas-Holmes
www.unfoldinglight.net



Jesus Tree, carved from a dead cedar by Lebanese sculptor Rudy Rahme



NATURE HAS THE FREEDOM TO DIE [T]he changing of the seasons expresse[es] a freedom that we might all seek. Trees shed their leaves confident that, after a period of cold, dark winter, new life will bloom. This freedom—grounded in trust—is what we might hope to achieve, if we were to take a lesson from the trees—and from Jesus. **After all, that’s what we see in Jesus on the cross, right? We quite literally see the freedom to die.** We see Christ who, shedding all trappings of riches, honor and pride, accepts whatever is to come—even if that is death, the apparent failure of his earthly mission. He freely gives his life, completely trusting in God. Eric Clayton, Jesuit Conference of Canada & US

Unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth & dies, it can only be a single seed...



WATCH: David Attenborough’s address to world leaders at COP26 —

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q-jq4VWdZhq8&list=TLQMzAwMzlw-MjJA3AXOfkJAPQ&index=2>

THE PASCHAL MYSTERY refers to the unfolding of God’s plan of salvation in Christ’s passion, death, and resurrection The birth, life, death, and resurrection of Christ are different movements of the same symphony of God’s extravagant love for us ...

O’Brien, The Ignatian Adventure