



# Aubrey Faber

member 2102 until death April 4, 2016.

In lieu of an obituary, here are a couple of Aubrey's posts to the journals.

## **Posted Monday, July 28, 2014**

I stumbled on this beautiful poem that I want to share with you. It expresses so many profound and wonderful moments on our Journeys. May God grant us the grace to love the Pilgrim and long for our Homeland.

### ***Tourist or Pilgrim?***

"I stand at the edge of myself and wonder  
Where is home? Oh! Where is the place where beauty will last?  
When will I be safe? And where?  
My tourist heart is wearing me out.  
I am so tired of seeking for treasures that tarnish. How much longer, Lord?

Oh! Which is the way home?

My luggage is heavy. It is weighing me down

I am hungry for the Holy Ground of home.

Then suddenly, overpowering me with the truth,

A voice within me gently says:

'There is a power in you,

a truth in you that has not yet been tapped.

You are blinded with a blindness that is deep,

For you have not loved the pilgrim in you yet

There is a road that runs straight through your heart.

Walk on it.'

To be a pilgrim means to be on the move, slowly,

To notice your luggage becoming lighter,

To seek for treasures that do not rust

To be comfortable with your heart's questions,

To be moving toward the Holy Ground of home with empty hands and bare feet.

And yet, you cannot reach that home until you have loved the pilgrim in you.

One must be comfortable as a pilgrim before one's feet can touch the homeland.

Do you want to go home?

There's a road that runs straight through your heart,

Walk on it."

(Macrina Wiederkehr)

## **Posted Tuesday, June 2, 2015**

### ***Silence Solitude & a new Dawn***

My dear Community, I have been silent and absent for some months now due to still lingering health issues. But, before I continue I need to beg your forgiveness for not sharing and participating as perhaps I should have. Mea Culpa!

Every time I did want to do so, I saw a post that made my situation seem so insignificant and not so bad and then I abandoned it. I need to work on my humility and trust and have a long way to go on those 2 virtues.

It all started as neck & lower back pain, but this became increasingly more painful and it started to affect my mobility, to the degree that I was unable to sit for too long a period of time & my chin was almost permanently resting on my chest.

After many tests and x-rays and a huge bunch of medication, they ruled out Myasthenia Gravis, but have not conclusively diagnosed Psoriatic Arthritis or Ankylosing Spondylitis. I have just started a course of Methotextrate, and thank God this has brought some relief.

Just know that you were in my prayers and I was faithful to your prayer days and LOH. But I want thank YOU for your prayerful support, for I know you were there for me. I would not have got this far if it were not for you & our Community.

Once again, Mea Culpa!

Blessings & Peace

**Posted Tuesday, July 7, 2015**

***A Day of Contrasts & Enlightenment***

On Saturday 27th June I renewed my Junior Commitment. Fr. Leo makes this so special. It was a private Mass in the Fathers' Chapel and I read my Commitment after the Gospel reading. He directed his prayers at me and all of the members of our Conversi community. I had to leave immediately after Mass and take my wife, Eileen, to the emergency unit of the local hospital.

She had fallen the previous evening and the pain & swelling had escalated. She was admitted and later it was determined that she had cracked her knee-cap & torn some ligaments. She is at home now for 3 weeks or so, and then at the follow-up visit, they will decide whether surgery is necessary.

Meanwhile, I have to double up on the domestic & other chores. With my psoriatic arthritis fully in place the tasks are sometimes painful & sometimes impossible to execute. Then on Saturday I had a moment of enlightenment. I considered myself so blessed to be able to offer all in total surrender to God for you, my community, and anyone who has asked for my prayers. My situation has brought me so much closer to you and my God.

In deep gratitude I thank you for your prayers & support for me & my wife.

**Posted Wednesday, November 11, 2015**

My dear Community: Thank you for all your prayers over the past months. I realize that I have not been present for a long time. Maybe I lacked the courage to share what was going on with my health. After some 16 months the tests have drawn to a close and a diagnosis has been made. I have MND {ALS}. (I think in the US it's referred to as Lou Gehrig's Disease). The news was devastating and I am still trying to adjust to this outcome. My prayer life & spiritual practices have taken a dive as I am still numbed by it all. I am trying to fathom God's Hand in all of this. I can't seem to find routine in anything I do. I am still working but I am exhausted at the end of the day. Please continue to pray for me as a difficult journey still lies ahead. Blessings.