

# Connecting New

August, 2025

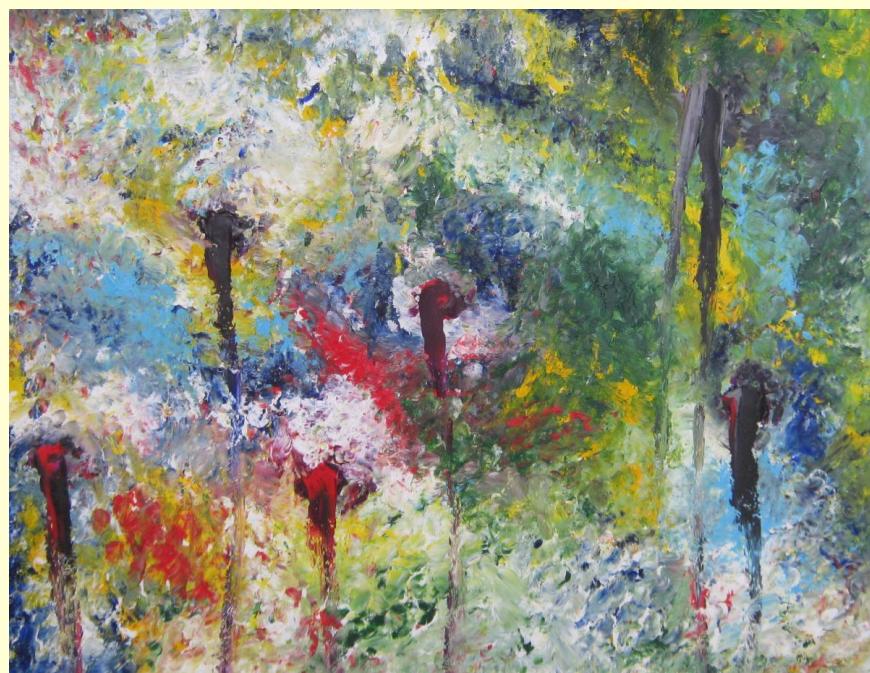
There is a richness in art. Kathleen Norris, bestselling author and poet, said that sometimes it takes years before she truly understands the meaning of a poem she has written. The late Fr. David Fleming, SJ told me that despite our affection for words, there is an even greater richness in visual art.

When I write and paint, sometimes I am aware of multiple meanings or levels of meaning, yet I am also quite aware that some levels of meaning are unclear even to me. Especially when painting, it feels as though I am trying to express what is not fully expressible. Like using words because I resonate with how they sound, even though I do not know what they mean.

The richness can expand (sometimes greatly) when someone else engages the art, discovering meanings never intended or subconscious, as well as the fruit of how the art may evoke experiences, feelings or the imagination of the one encountering it.

So this month I share only a painting, and I invite you to spend some time engaging it. Welcome the richness that may be there. Welcome what God may wish to say to you through this painting. Consider your reaction and what that may be saying.

After spending this time, you may wish to scroll down to the end of the email, where I provide the title of this painting.



The title of the painting is *What the Tears are Saying*.

Peace and Blessings,  
Clarence

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