

What a camera can do

“A camera can help people to see.” *Berenice Abbott*

I am painfully grateful for cameras, photographers. and videos.

A photo can capture a sunset, the surprise of a birthday, the embrace of two lovers.

It can also unmask brutality, hatred, and violence.

Cameras can reveal something that was once hidden, or even covered up.

“A camera can help people to see” both the things we yearn to see as well as what we’d prefer not to look at, or admit. Lately, I’m *painfully* grateful for cameras that help us to see.

In the unfolding kaleidoscope of life, we are sustained by a Divine power we name: Trinity.

This Trinity is a Father who creates each of us in his image and bestows great freedoms: to love or to hate, to build up or to tear down, even to suffocate or breathe forth life.

This Trinity is also Jesus, who loved even unto death. The One who calls us to carry the cross of sacrificial love. Because it is this very love that gives life.

This Trinity is Holy Spirit who empowers us to be brave in every darkness and to see a spark of the Divine in the complexity and diversity of the church and of the human family.

This Triune God sees all things. Nothing escapes the divine view. God knows the landscapes of our cities as well as the contours of our hearts. The eye of God is always watching, beckoning us to diffuse the life-giving energy to everyone, everywhere. No exceptions.

One day we will all stand before the One who sees all that is and all that ever was. Justice and mercy will kiss. On that great day the truth of what we have chosen to become will come to light. And in that blessed flash, we will have chosen our destiny.

Yes, “a camera helps us to see.” So let’s pray that we would focus the lenses of our hearts on extending the work of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

Then our lives will have become snapshots of grace for others in the river of time.

Amen.

Fr. Steven Labaire