

Corpus Christi (for Bill Shannon)

By Larry Culliford

Kneeling by your frame
I was weeping,
Eyes overflowing
With my Anglican tears.
Soul moved
By deep wounds of history,
Barely acknowledged by earthly mind
Until now.

Clarity shone through in the Mass,
Corpus Christi.
Serenity and joy,
Living here among us,
Reflected in your gracious touch
And radiant smile.

“The Spirit comes,” you said,
“To transform us
Into the Body of Christ.”
So I know,
Despite history,
That we are irrevocably one . . .
One flesh,
Inseparable, united.
And I weep.

Tears of sorrow transformed
Into tears of healing,
(Into tears of laughter and bliss)
Make me whole.



Larry Culliford

Larry Culliford, the chair of the Thomas Merton Society of Great Britain and Ireland, is a psychiatrist and author of numerous books, including *Love, Healing and Happiness: Spiritual Wisdom for a Post-Secular Era* (2007).

Now, there is nothing left,
Nothing,
Nothing,
But to praise and give thanks forever.