

Risking To Trust

Fr. Bob McDonald, S.M.

In writing my daily loveletter, I try to put on paper my true feelings. Even though no one but God will read these letters, I still find it difficult to admit to certain feelings.

FEAR is the enemy. Fear keeps me from getting closer to God Himself.

And I fear someone may find these letters, and not understand what I mean. Or take them to the publishers! I have accumulated many boxes of these letters since I made my Weekend in May of 1978. I must get rid of them. But whom shall I trust to carry them to the disposal place? And what if someone finds them!

Carmel & Lucille have agreed to burn them for me.

But I have postponed delivery. As much as I love them, I am taking a risk to put these letters in their hands. I have never dialogued with them (dialogue is what we call it when a priest dialogues with a couple).

Now if I can get them to dialogue with me, I could risk my feelings with them more intimately. If I did that, I am sure that my trust in them would grow. Then after a few dialogues I may be willing to hand over these letters at last.

That is what "Risking to Trust" is about. It is about dialogue. It is the way we grow in trust, risking more and more each day.

Now, I have been dialoguing with Dave & Ellie for many years. It should be easy for me to bring this up to them. But, surprise! I haven't made this a subject for our weekly dialogues. Well, that means that I must take the risk and make this our question.

But dialogue is not about solving problems.

Perhaps I will dare to ask Fr. Andy to dialogue with me about this. He made a weekend a long time ago. After all, the problem would be solved anyway, if anything should come up and I would have to move out. As my Superior, he would be the one to dispose of these letters. Happily I have built up my trust in him. I trust him with my life!

Have a grace-filled Lent! I love you.

I love you,

Fr. Bob McDonald, S.M.