

[*9] In some practical way, Sister Paschal's simple "solution" to an intractable "problem" sanctioned my unending personal devotion to all the "mysteries" that this world and life itself proffer, some of them spiritual (a fascination with the many religious ideologies humans have created, seeking never to elevate one to supremacy but to understand what they share in common, which is what systems-level "wisdom" is from my point of view); some of them philosophical: the nature of Being, capital B, for example, (via the vast reservoir of Western and Eastern systems that attempt to address it, seeking again not to pick one but to revel in their diversity, creating a path specifically suited to me); some of them material, the fundamentally baffling nature of reality, not only at the subatomic level, (Heisenberg's "uncertainty principle" the keystone there); but also at the brain-function level, via a concept like imagination (the brain's capacity to function multidimensionally); some of them literary and creative (especially my longstanding devotion to reading and writing poetry, but even more so, for living day to day with the eyes and ears of a poet, awake, even if none of that experience eventuates in words on a page.)