

in the process is important and useful for the family.

In today's world medical technologies are increasing the number of decision points in people's lives. In the past, questions about whether a couple should have a child when fertility was compromised were limited to the consideration of adoption. With new technology, the choices have in-

creased—whether to have a child by in vitro fertilization, whether to have the “donor” sperm or eggs be derived from the parents or from another individual, whether to use a “surrogate mother,” and more. These decisions are difficult and require insight and careful consideration. They are not merely economic or practical discussions but call for spiritual reflection, insight, and guidance. ✱

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## POETRY DESK

# Pre-Post-Liturgical Nap

David O'Neal

After having spent time at the heart of all things,  
I feared I might miss it, but as it turned out,  
The center of the cosmos kindly followed me,  
Remaining just under my feet wherever I went,  
Until it was at last revealed to be located  
Just under yours as well. Then  
I saw a muskrat in Irkutsk on  
The TV, and it turned out to be  
Under his too.



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