

July 3, 2023



Daily Reflections

JOURNEYING THROUGH CHALLENGING TIMES

Image by Christine Sponchia from Pixabay

FINDING JESUS IN THE ORDINARY

By Sr. Jane DeLisle, CSJ

An Excerpt From Today's Gospel

"We have seen the Lord."

JOHN 20:25

Reflection

Today's gospel is a post-Resurrection encounter of Jesus revealing himself to the Apostles. Thomas, having been absent on that occasion, remained incredulous.

"We have seen the Lord" reflects the experience of the Apostles and their deepening ability to perceive Jesus with them. You and I have never seen Jesus as the Apostles did. Yet, thousands of years later, we believe in Jesus and the dynamic of his presence among us, and present within us.

I often jest that Jesus never posed for a portrait of himself. Yet, there are pictures of him circulating throughout the ages, created in someone's imagination. I walked into the office of one of my colleagues one day and immediately recognized a picture of Jesus on the wall. It is simply understood that that stylized image is recognized as Jesus.

Yet, I believe that you and I are privileged to see Jesus among us every day. When I am attentive to the goodness, compassion, and welcoming service in other people, I see Jesus. In quiet prayer or simple reflective quiet, Jesus may be revealed within me in affirmation and invitation. When I respond generously to the simple and sometimes complex needs of family, friends, coworkers, Jesus is present. Sometimes, Jesus is revealed in the need and desperation of a person living on the street who invites my notice, respect, and generosity.

Recently, I recognized the qualities of Jesus in a man on our pilgrimage in the Holy Land. In every way, he seemed to embody the compassion, attentiveness, and gentle care for others in our group in ways that alerted me to the Jesus I know in faith.

When and where and in what circumstance have you “*seen the Lord?*” God’s great love, compassion, and mercy are alive and active in people of any age. Let your faith become tangible: open your eyes to perceive Jesus, present and available. Where have you seen the Lord recently?



Two people clasping hands
Photo by Pixabay

For Pondering

Where have I discovered Jesus in my everyday living?

For Prayer

Pray for the grace to allow your own life to speak and reveal Jesus in quite ordinary ways.

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