

May 29, 2025

Daily Reflections

Journeying through Easter



Center for Spiritual Development

JESUS SPEAKS OF "A LITTLE WHILE"

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Today's Gospel

Jesus said to his disciples: "A little while and you will no longer see me, and again a little while later and you will see me." So some of his disciples said to one another, "What does this mean that he is saying to us, 'A little while and you will not see me, and again a little while and you will see me,' and 'Because I am going to the Father?'" So they said, "What is this 'little while' of which he speaks? We do not know what he means." Jesus knew that they wanted to ask him, so he said to them, "Are you discussing with one another what I said, 'A little while and you will not see me, and again a little while and you will see me'? Amen, amen, I say to you, you will weep and mourn, while the world rejoices; you will grieve, but your grief will become joy."

JOHN 16:16-20

Reflection

During the past six weeks of the Easter Season, the Scriptures have focused on the Acts of the Apostles, the amazing story of the small community of disciples struggling to fathom the depth of the resurrection of Jesus and the promise of the Holy Spirit. Today's Gospel is part of the last discourse in the Gospel of John, Jesus' last meal with his closest friends the night before he died. Jesus was aware that the time had come when his disciples would grieve because Jesus would leave them for a time. They did not understand what Jesus meant so Jesus repeated, ***“You will weep and lament, but the world will rejoice.”*** Jesus was revealing what would happen, but the disciples could not imagine what he meant. Outside the Upper Room, in the darkness and shadows of that night, a conflict was raging between the Jewish leaders and the Way of Jesus, and soon Jesus would be taken from the disciples to be captured, shamed, mocked and humiliated.



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For Pondering and Prayer

As we reflect on Jesus' last words to the disciples during that sacred meal with his beloved friends, we know we may also experience times when we do not sense the presence of Jesus Christ near us. We might go through periods of darkness or loss or wilderness where we feel alone for a while. This is a time to trust that Jesus will never abandon us or leave us orphans. After Jesus' passion and death on the cross, the Risen Jesus appeared to the disciples in various places, loving them and giving them his peace and forgiveness. Jesus promised to give them the Holy Spirit, who would help them remember and understand

all that he taught them. In a few days we will celebrate Jesus' Ascension into heaven, his return to the Bosom of his Father.

May we await a new outpouring of the Holy Spirit, who will teach us all things and help us to be Christ's living presence in our suffering world.

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