

February 25, 2024

Daily Reflections

Journeying through Lent



Center for Spiritual Development

SACRED THREADS

By Julie Mussché

Excerpts from Today's Readings

"Abraham, Abraham!"

Here I am!" he answered.

"Do not lay your hand on the boy," said the messenger.

"Do not do the least thing to him.

I know now how devoted you are to God,

since you did not withhold from me your own beloved son."

GENESIS 22:11-12

Brothers and sisters:

If God is for us, who can be against us?

He who did not spare his own Son

but handed him over for us all,

how will he not also give us everything else along with him?

ROMANS 8:31-32

*Then Elijah appeared to them along with Moses,
and they were conversing with Jesus.
Then Peter said to Jesus in reply,
"Rabbi, it is good that we are here!
Let us make three tents:
one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah."
He hardly knew what to say, they were so terrified.
Then a cloud came, casting a shadow over them;
from the cloud came a voice,
"This is my beloved Son. Listen to him."
Suddenly, looking around, they no longer saw anyone
but Jesus alone with them.
As they were coming down from the mountain,
he charged them not to relate what they had seen to anyone,
except when the Son of Man had risen from the dead.
So they kept the matter to themselves,
questioning what rising from the dead meant.*

MARK 9:4-10

Reflection

What a spectacular array of scriptural narrative today. Chock full of mystery and awe, we vicariously encounter the extraordinary relationship between God and humankind.

Abraham demonstrates exceeding obedience when God commands him to sacrifice his child. As horrible as it may seem, child sacrifice was practiced during this time period throughout the Mediterranean region. There are other scriptural examples as well as admonishments against child sacrifice. Hence, Abraham responds to God's command with faithfulness, his fidelity weighs in on the fate of his son, and Isaac's life is spared.

The second reading from St. Paul includes one of the most recognized scriptural affirmations from the New Testament: "If God is for us, who can be against us?" This gives us another example of faith in action, and God's commitment to us, even sacrificing his own son for the benefit of us all. And, at the end of the reading, Paul accentuates the ongoing fulfillment of the bond between God and humankind with the emphasis on the raising of Christ Jesus, not his death, and his role as intercessor.

The Transfiguration exclaims today's readings, a merging of what was and

what is to be. The appearance of Moses and Elijah herald the coming of the Messiah, the voice of God proclaiming, “This is my beloved Son. Listen to him.” This further clarifies that a new day has dawned.

As reported in the Gospel narrative, Peter, James, and John were terrified by the Transfiguration -- who wouldn't be? As they are descending the mountain, the disciples are instructed not to say anything until after Jesus rises from the dead. Honestly, would you tell anyone what happened? Or maybe you would be so excited and want to tell the world -- can you imagine having to keep quiet about something so incredible? And then, who wouldn't have questions about “what rising from the dead meant?” And the beat goes on.



Ancient Streambed
Photo by Julie Mus sché

For Pondering

If you have a moment today, go to <https://bible.usccb.org/daily-bible-reading> to find the full text for today's readings. You are invited to take a slow walk through the narrative.

- What catches your fancy?
- How are you feeling called by the Word?

- Where do you find God in relationship with you, a member of humankind?

If you enjoy reading our reflections and would like to make a donation towards this ministry, click the button below!

Support CSD



Visit Website

714-744-3172

Join Mailing
List



To “Unsubscribe” from the daily reflections while remaining on our general mailing list, please [email us](#). The unsubscribe function below will unsubscribe you from all emails from CSD. Please know we will never share your information.

[Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)

Sent by thecsd@csjorange.org