

June 2, 2025

Daily Reflections

Journeying through Easter



Center for Spiritual Development

PEACE IN THE SCATTERING

By Lucy Dominguez

Today's Gospel

*The disciples said to Jesus,
“Now you are talking plainly, and not in any figure of speech.
Now we realize that you know everything
and that you do not need to have anyone question you.
Because of this we believe that you came from God.”
Jesus answered them, “Do you believe now?
Behold, the hour is coming and has arrived
when each of you will be scattered to his own home
and you will leave me alone.
But I am not alone, because the Father is with me.
I have told you this so that you might have peace in me.
In the world you will have trouble,
but take courage, I have conquered the world.”*

JOHN 16:29-33

Reflection

There is tender honesty at this moment between Jesus and his disciples. They finally feel confident: “Now we understand. Now we believe.” It’s a moment of clarity, something we all long for in our faith journey. But Jesus, knowing what is about to unfold, gently meets their confidence with reality: “Do you believe now? The hour is coming ... when you will be scattered ... and leave me alone.”

It’s not a rebuke, it’s compassion. Jesus knows their hearts. He knows that faith isn’t a straight line. He knows that fear, confusion, and grief will soon shake their certainty. And yet, he speaks peace into their lives: “I have told you this so that you might have peace in me.”

What a gift. Jesus doesn’t promise a life without pain; he tells us plainly, “In the world you will have trouble.” But he also offers what the world cannot give: his peace, and the assurance that we are never truly alone.

How often do we feel like we’re doing well in faith, praying regularly, feeling connected, and then something scatters us: a diagnosis, a loss, a disappointment. In those moments, Jesus’ words reach us: *Take courage. I have conquered the world.* Jesus carries what we cannot. And because of that, we can rest, trust, and even find peace amid uncertainty.

May we lean into that peace today, not because everything is perfect, but because he is present.



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For Pondering

Ask yourself:

- When have I felt confident in my faith, only to be shaken by fear, confusion, or difficulty? How did I experience Jesus' presence during that time?
 - What does it mean for me personally to "take courage" and find peace in Jesus, especially when facing challenges I cannot control?
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For Prayer

Let us be present to the now. It's all we have and it's where God will always speak to us. The now holds everything, rejects nothing and, therefore, can receive God too. Help us, God, to be present to the place we most fear, because it always feels empty, it always feels boring, it always feels like it's not enough. Help us find some space within that we don't try to fill with ideas or opinions. Help us find space so you, loving God, can show yourself in that place where we are hungry and empty. Keep us out of the way, so there is

*always room enough for you. Good God, we believe that you are here and
your presence gives us hope.*

RICHARD ROHR, OFM

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