



Center for Spiritual Development

Daily Reflections

Image by Christine Sponchia

FEAST OF SAINT BARTHOLOMEW, APOSTLE

By Sr. Jane DeLisle, CSJ

Today's Responsorial Psalm Refrain

"Your friends make known, O Lord, the glorious splendor of your Kingdom."

PSALM 145:12

Reflection

When I was in elementary school, the sisters who taught me emphasized the need to give a good example to others, especially the younger students. "Do your best to be a good influence on others like Jesus was." I learned that I was to "make known the splendor of God's kingdom" now, today, by the way I lived. The apostles understood the value of witness.

There is some controversy among scripture scholars as to the identity of Bartholomew. It is thought that he was Nathanael from John's Gospel, John 1: 45-51. The reality is that we do not know a great deal about the apostles. Yet, they had firsthand experience of Jesus. Thus, they are remembered as the

foundation of spreading the Good News. They spoke in the name of Jesus, witnessed to the person, words, and works of Jesus.

Whether Bartholomew or Peter or any of the other apostles, they were proactive in the mission of enlightening people across the world about God's great love and presence in the person of Jesus. It was their experience of personal transformation through living, working, praying, serving with Jesus Christ that has been gifted to us down through the ages.

Since Jesus returned to the Father, the friends of God make God known to us through Jesus' revelation of the "glorious splendor of God's Kingdom" alive and active among us even today. The simple truth is that humanity is at its best when concerned about recognizing, naming, and claiming God's abiding presence and concern for all of creation. ***"Humanity is made holy with God's own holiness, becomes the most precious creation of God."*** (Franciscan Media)

In coming to know Jesus through reflection on scripture, the glory, blessings, and abiding presence of God among us are revealed. We are to ***"put on the mind of Christ"*** (Philippians 2:5) and be God's compassionate and merciful presence in the world. We are now the ones who are called and sent to reveal God among us through our witness of a personal relationship with God in the service of God's people.



Fresco in Orthodox Church
Photo by Ron Lach

For Pondering

- Who has witnessed fidelity to God's way in my lifetime?
 - How do I witness to God's loving and compassionate presence?
 - What inner transformation do I need to witness to the Good News of God's abiding, caring presence?
-

For Prayer

Jesus, You reflect God's desire to be one with us and call us to be a loving, compassionate presence to all we encounter. Please, give me the courage of those who walked with You as I try to follow in their footsteps. Make my heart like Your own. Amen.

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

[Support Us Here](#)



Center for
Spiritual
Development

COMPANIONS ON THE
SACRED JOURNEY



[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.

Center for Spiritual Development | 434 A South Batavia Street, Orange, CA 92868 (714)744-3175

[Unsubscribe slongbotham@csjorange.org](mailto:slongbotham@csjorange.org)

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

Sent by thecsd@csjorange.org