

November 22, 2025

Daily Reflections



BETROTHED!

By Sister Bernie Inocencio, CSJ

Centering

As we begin this reflection, I invite you to center yourself by listening to **My Beloved, a song by Kari Jobe**. Sit with the words of the song for a few moments. Below are the last few verses.

"I sing over you my song of peace

Cast all your cares down at my feet

Come and find your rest in me.

I'll breathe my life inside of you

I'll bear you up on eagle's wings

And hide you in the shadow of my strength

I'll take you to my quiet waters

I'll restore your soul

Come rest in me and be made whole

*You're my beloved, you're my bride
To sing over you is my delight
Come away with me my love."*

**FROM MY BELOVED BY KARI JOBE/ KLAUS KUEHN
LYRICS © INTEGRITY MUSIC**

Excerpts from Today's Readings

*Thus says the LORD: I will allure her now.
I will lead her into the wilderness
and speak persuasively to her.
Then I will give her the vineyards she had,
and the valley of Anchor as a door of hope.
There she will respond as in the days of her youth,
as on the day when she came up from the land of Egypt.*

*I will betroth you to me forever:
I will betroth you to me with justice and with judgment,
with loyalty and with compassion;
I will betroth you to me with fidelity,
and you shall know the LORD.*

HOSEA 2:16-17, 21-22

*All glorious is the king's daughter as she enters,
her raiment threaded with gold;
In embroidered apparel she is led to the king.
The maids of her train are presented to the king.
They are led in with glad and joyous acclaim;
they enter the palace of the king."*

PSALM 45:14-16

*This is the wise bridesmaid, whom the Lord found waiting;
at his coming, she went in with him to the wedding feast.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION SUMMARIZING MATTHEW 25:1-13

*The bridegroom came and those who were ready went into the wedding feast
with him. Then the door was locked.*

MATTHEW 25:10

Reflection

Hosea uses the metaphor of marriage to describe God's relationship with his people. ***When you reflect on your relationship with God, do you experience it as a marriage of mutual love (“my husband”) or a relationship of duty and obligation (“my master”)?***

God desires to “betroth” us in righteousness, justice, love, mercy, and faithfulness. ***Which of these attributes do you feel are most present in your relationship with God today, and which do you need to pray for and cultivate?***

Our individual journey is a movement from the loving mercy of God (Hosea) to the joyful anticipation of Christ's triumph and the Church's ultimate glorification (Psalm 45), culminating in the urgent call to spiritual vigilance and personal accountability in our daily lives as we await his final coming (Matthew 25).

As the parable of the virgins in Matthew reinforces, the oil of the Spirit cannot be shared or borrowed. The oil in Matthew's parable represents the covenantal faithfulness described in Hosea. The glory and abundance promised in Hosea and Psalm 45 are not automatic. They are reserved for those who, like the wise virgins, consistently practice and actively prepare for the coming of Jesus. These people nurture a deep and personal intimacy with God while they wait.

It is not enough to simply claim the title of “bride”; one must cultivate a faithful relationship with God over time. The foolish virgins failed because they were not committed; they only had an outward appearance of participation.

How are you participating faithfully in your “betrothal” with God in your current life?

How are you living more faithfully, ensuring you are ready at any hour?



Image created by Sister Bernie Inocencio, CSJ

For Prayer

*Merciful and loving God,
My Beloved,
cultivate in me
righteousness,
justice,
love,
compassion,
mercy, and
faithfulness.*

*Grant me Your grace that
I may live and participate
faithfully in my life with You.
Amen.*

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