

April 18, 2023



Center for Spiritual Development

Daily Reflections

JOURNEYING THROUGH EASTER

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ONE IN HEART AND MIND

By Sister Jane DeLisle, CSJ

Excerpts from Today's Readings

The community of believers was of one heart and mind, and no one claimed that any of his possessions was his own, but they had everything in common.

With great power the Apostles bore witness to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great favor was accorded them all. There was no needy person among them, for those who owned property or houses would sell them, bring the proceeds of the sale, and put them at the feet of the Apostles, and they were distributed to each according to need.

ACTS 4:32-35

Reflection

As we live into the reality of the Resurrection of Jesus in this second week of Easter, I am reminded of the Spirit of Jesus at work within the followers of Jesus in the first century. The powerful grace of resurrected life, of Jesus' profound

self-emptying love, seemed to take hold of the apostles and others who believed. Ready Grace flowed into hearts and souls of followers, animating each one to the good of all. Not only did they tell the stories of Jesus' life, death, and resurrection, but they also came together as one in mind and heart to the extent that they shared all in common according to need. Humility formed their attitude toward others, generosity of spirit motivated their actions.

I pray that this attention first to the common good, living in the flow of Jesus' resurrection, and being enlivened with the profound love of God motivate my being and serving each day. May I and we be so filled with the great love of God to respond to today's need for healing, forgiveness, and dedication to the needs of the people of God. Abundant Grace is available to me and to you; God's love flows in abundance in us now and always so that we have the capacity to be one.

Let us embrace Easter faith and serve in the manner of Jesus' self-emptying. May we, too, respond to the needs among us for healing and renewal of spirit through generous service. Let us be conduits for the flow of God's great love, and in the power of the Spirit that raised Jesus from the dead to counter the brokenness and violence in our own times. Let generosity be the hallmark, so that *"no one be in need"* among us. May we be the community of believers, followers of Jesus of whom is said,

***"The community of believers was of one heart and mind,
and no one claimed that any of his possessions was his own,
but they had everything in common."***

ACTS 4:32



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For Pondering

- How is the Easter grace of lavish love at work in me, in my family, in my community?
 - When have I realized God's great love in my life?
 - How am I invited to give myself away in humility and compassion?
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For Prayer

Gracious and loving God, your love and mercy have been realized in my own life. I am grateful and moved to respond to others in like manner. Show me the way to live and give without measure. Let the flow of your abiding presence fill my soul so that goodness, truth, and compassion are the hallmark of my life. Upon you I depend for all the good I can do and all the love that witness each day. May we be one mind and one heart with You. Amen

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