

November 3, 2025

Daily Reflections



GOD'S MERCY AND GRACE

By Sister Jayne Helmlinger, CSJ

From Today's Readings

The gifts and the call of God are irrevocable.

ROMANS 11:29

Lord, in your great love, answer me.

PSALM 69:17

Jesus teaches: when you give a banquet, don't invite those who can repay you; invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind.

LUKE 14:12-14

Reflection

The readings from today flow nicely from yesterday's because we're being

invited to continue reflecting on God's mercy and what it means for us to live a life of generosity of heart that flows from the Divine love we receive. It's through God's grace that we remain rooted in our faith, and it's that grace that continually points us to our desire for eternal life.

In the first reading from Romans, St. Paul reminds us that God's love and invitation to us are irrevocable. God has promised us and God does not renege on promises! Think of how often you and I stray from our journey with God. Each time, God's mercy is there to bring us back, to forgive us, and lead us away from sin and distraction. How I wish the mercy I have for others were even a tenth of God's infinite and loving mercy. This naturally evokes the virtue of humility in us because God's love is not something we earn; it is freely given to us, and we need simply to respond. It is a reminder for us to give praise and thanksgiving to the God who constantly beckons us.

The gospel reading is a challenging one for me because naturally I would want to invite family, friends, and people I know to any dinner I might be hosting. If we dig deeper, this passage means so much more than this. This speaks to the type of love God is calling forth from each of us. It's all about loving for love's sake. When we love, let us strive for "no strings attached" love that flows freely and generously from our hearts.

These readings call us to seek opportunities to serve others, forgive others (and ourselves), and cultivate attitudes of the heart where our desire to love our dear neighbors comes naturally and with joy.



Photo by Andre Manuel

For Pondering

- As you reflect on your own generosity of heart, assess if you need some adjustments. Can you identify any triggers or blocks that impede your ability to love and be generous with others?
- How has God's mercy and love been evident throughout your life? After naming what bubbles up, lift your heart and prayers to God in praise and thanksgiving.

For Prayer

*Oh God of infinite love and generosity,
may our hearts be open to the invitations in our lives
to be generous and loving.
Let us, with joy and mercy,
be your instruments of healing, hospitality, and peace.
Amen.*

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