

May 10, 2023



Center for Spiritual Development

Daily Reflections

JOURNEYING THROUGH EASTER

Photo by Tomas Williams from Pexels

THE VINEYARD

By Sister Jayne Helmlinger, CSJ

Excerpts from Today's Gospel

Jesus said to his disciples: "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine grower. He takes away every branch in me that does not bear fruit, and everyone that does he prunes so that it bears more fruit. You are already pruned because of the word that I spoke to you. Remain in me, as I remain in you. If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask for whatever you want and it will be done for you. By this is my Father glorified, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples."

JOHN 15:1-3, 7-8

Reflection

The vineyard is such a powerful image to help us reflect on our life with the Beloved, our life as part of the larger faith community, and our life as individual believers. Sit with this image of the vineyard and allow your mind to wander between the rhythm and layers of your own life. Settle in where the Spirit leads you as you ponder the vines, branches, and grapes.

In my own reflection, I'm captured by what needs pruning in my own life. Am I contributing to the growth of the Gospel message or is something in my manner of being injuring the other branches?



Photo by Sr. Jayne Helmlinger , CSJ

Vineyard of Life

*You are the vine on which we grow
deeper in faith, hope and love.*

*We are the branches intertwined with one another
a community of seekers on The Way.*

*Pruning shears you gently guide
over us, your branches, bursting forth with fruit.*

*As our grapes are harvested with each passing day
new branches emerge – a promise of what's to come.*

JAYNE HELMLINGER, CSJ

For Pondering

- As you reflect on your own branch in the vineyard of the Lord, is your fruit bountiful?
 - As you continue to reflect on your branch in the vineyard, what might need pruning in your life to allow fresh buds to flourish in the coming weeks?
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For Prayer

*O God of the Vineyard,
we pray for all those in need of your tender care.
May we be instruments of your divine love
as we toil in the vineyards of life. Amen.*

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

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