

May 20, 2025

Daily Reflections

Journeying through Easter



Center for Spiritual Development

GOD'S GIVEN PEACE

By Alicia Rodriguez

An Excerpt from Today's Gospel

Jesus said to his disciples:

"Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you.

Not as the world gives do I give it to you.

Do not let your hearts be troubled or afraid.

You heard me tell you,

'I am going away and I will come back to you.'

If you loved me,

you would rejoice that I am going to the Father;

for the Father is greater than I."

JOHN 14:27-28

Reflection

Today I am reminded of the promise of God's peace. Jesus explains to the disciples that they should rejoice that He is leaving them to be with God. It must have been scary and saddening when they heard what Jesus was saying. Imagine your beloved friend telling you that she or he is leaving and asking that you rejoice at the news.

I have lost many loved ones during my lifetime and even though it is something that I have already experienced, that doesn't make successive losses any easier. I have had so many irreplaceable and unique relationships with these loved ones that I have lost -- reminiscing on those bonds makes me yearn to be by their side.

Jesus provides me with the comfort of knowing that my loved ones are in a state of constant joy because they are with God. I am reminded by Jesus' words that one day we will all be reunited and share in the same joy.

The promise of tomorrow is a gift from God -- but so are the memories of yesterday. They are a reminder that one day we too will leave loved ones behind, and we must rejoice in the now, as well as preparing them to find peace in our absence.



Easter Cross
Photo by Alicia Rodriguez

For Pondering

Ask yourself:

- What are some ways I can find peace while waiting?

- What are some ways I can help others find peace?

For Prayer

*God,
teach us what it means to have faith in silence.
When we face trials that are beyond our understanding,
help us to find peace.
Help me be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, and faithful in prayer.
You set all things in accordance with your time.
Remind us to wait patiently, and find peace in your plan.*

DICK WOODWARD

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