

February 11, 2025

Daily Reflections



THE LIKENESS OF GOD

By Sister Jane DeLisle, CSJ

An Excerpt from Today's First Reading

Then God said:

"Let us make man in our image, after our likeness." ...

God created man in his image;

in the divine image he created him;

male and female he created them.

GENESIS 1:26-27

Reflection

The Book of Genesis proclaims the essential belief in ***the dignity of the human person created in God's image and likeness***. The principles of our faith flow from our God-given dignity, given to us by God of Love from the beginning of humanity. The world religions, and all that is done for the good of all, spring from this essential truth. The Spirit and Spirituality of the Sisters of

St. Joseph is rooted the reality of our being created in God's image; and Jesus came to reveal God's love, compassion, mercy, and desire "that all may be One." (Jn 17:21)

We live and have our being in God Beyond all Names. Pondering this central truth opens the way to mutual respect, reverence for all of life, human persons and creation itself.

Even when any one of us is not our best selves, or strays from the path of God's great love, the truth remains that "we are made in the image and likeness of God." I stand in great humility, knowing my humanness, my wounded spirit, and the reality of everyday lives in relationship with others.

I am at once challenged and graced beyond understanding to embrace this dignity imprinted in my life and all that lives. Gradually, over the years, I have learned to live into becoming the woman God has created me to be.

This means both great light and periodic darkness within me all bears God's abiding presence. Day by day, I am learning to live, and act, and pray for the grace of God's love to help me. Living with my eyes wide open and heart alert, I need to step back from my own ego drive and my false need to be perfect. With patience and humility, I seek forgiveness, or a different approach to life that will allow my best self to come forth. It takes a lifetime to live into *the likeness of God*.



For Pondering

- When have I known myself to be blessed, graced, and to actively live in God's great love for me and my neighbor without distinction?
 - When has my recognition of my flaws, weakness, woundedness, and sin turned me toward God and forgiveness, healing, and renewal in God's loving way?
 - Who has witnessed God's love and abiding presence in my life?
 - Who am I invited to see with God's eyes, rather than through my own judgement or criticism?
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For Prayer

*O God, you are over all, in all, beyond all.
Open my eyes to see the wonders that surround me.
Open my heart to know the marvels within my brothers and sisters.
Open my lips to sing your praise.
Restore all people in your image and likeness.
With you all is possible.
I ask this in the name of God beyond all names.
Amen.*

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