

November 25, 2024

Daily Reflections



Center for Spiritual Development

DESERT SOJOURN 1: SACRED MEMORIES

By Julie Mussché

A Quote

"To receive the grace of God you must go to the desert and stay a while."

ST. CHARLES DE FOUCAULD

Reflection

Dear Reader,

During this season of gratitude, please enjoy the following ramblings that emerged from a recent sojourn at Lake Havasu. Happy Thanksgiving!

On a recent journey to Lake Havasu to visit with friends, we opted for a different travel route. Due to ongoing construction on the I-40, we -- myself and my travelling companions -- had avoided taking this path for many years, but off we went giving it a go. As we made our way cutting through the San Bernardino Mountains, many memories of past trips started to surface. Descending into Victorville, everything looked familiar, albeit more developed

and expanded since the last drive through.

Once we started moving more deeply into the Mojave Desert toward Barstow, my excitement started to grow. These were old tracks for me, a route of many journeys north and east. Connecting with the I-40, an overlay to Route 66 and ancient trade routes of the indigenous peoples of numerous regions, the past echoed from within the asphalt.

The horizon of the Mojave transitions moving eastward, from mountain ranges and cinder cones, flat dry lakes and salt pans and limestone caves, to the plateaus and mesas of Arizona while entering the Colorado River basin. It is vast and beautiful, stark, and remote ... although a steady stream of traffic, particularly container trucks, moves along the highway.

Off road along the way, camper groups had set up for the evening at primitive camp sites. This really sparked remembrances of adventures past. Often our caravan of geographers traveling to study various sites of the Mojave would put up a hasty camp before venturing into the more remote parts of the wilderness, mostly on dirt roads, the following day.

Coming up from remembering and driving along toward our destination, road signs whizzed by, Kelso, Ludlow, Cima, and once again, my mind and senses went to the past. Images of campfires and pit cooking and sharing meals with friends; singing or booming sand dunes, mysterious caves and a visiting bat one evening. One thing found its way into my mind's eye, that of a star-drenched night sky. The mantle of the universe with the limitation of ambient light gives one pause to ponder the Divine Mystery. For all of this, I am truly grateful.



Night Sky
Photo by Julie Mussch é

For Pondering

- What are some of your sacred memories that emerge as a source of gratitude?
 - How is God present to you in the remembering?
-

For Prayer

*Thank you, Gracious Creator,
for the gift of remembering,*

*of being present to you in all things and occasions over time,
and the people that pass in and through our lives.
Amen.*

**If you enjoy reading our reflections and would like to make
a donation towards this ministry, click the button below!**

Support CSD



Visit Website

714-744-3172

Join Mailing
List



To “Unsubscribe” from the daily reflections while remaining on our general mailing list, please [email us](#). The unsubscribe function below will unsubscribe you from all emails from CSD. Please know we will never share your information.

