

March 27, 2024

Daily Reflections

Journeying through Lent



Center for Spiritual Development

GIVING PAUSE

By Julie Mussché

An Excerpt from Today's First Reading

*"The Lord God has given me a well-trained tongue,
That I may know how to speak to the weary a word that will rouse them.
Morning after morning he opens my ear that I may hear;
And I have not rebelled, have not turned back."*

ISAIAH 50:4-5

Reflection

Early Wednesday morning, Bethany

Thomas lingered on his sleeping mat; it had been a late night. He thought back to what had happened. "If I hadn't witnessed it, I wouldn't have believed it," Thomas ruminated to himself. "The woman who anointed Jesus -- where did she come from? A number of us complained at such an extravagance, and were

taken aback when Jesus responded so passionately, 'The poor you will have always have with you; but you will not always have me.' Why is Jesus talking about his own burial? And all this confusing speech about the resurrection of the dead. I don't know what to make of it," his mulling continued, "to believe such a thing. Jesus said it, and yet, I doubt it." A heaviness fell on Thomas. "We have waited so long for the Messiah, and after Jesus's glorious entry into Jerusalem, it seemed like the time of redemption and freedom had come. Now, it is hard to say." Thomas rose, rolled up his floor-covering, recited his morning prayers, and washed his hands. They would be leaving soon for the city, and so he went to join the others.



"In John 12:3-8, Mary anoints Jesus with expensive perfume and wipes his feet with her own hair, to which Jesus says that it was intended 'she should save this perfume for the day of my burial'." by Wonderlane is licensed under CC BY 2.0. To view a copy of this license, visit <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/2.0/?ref=openverse>.

A Prayerful Invitation

Today offers many avenues for prayer. Jesus said we will always have the poor with us; what is your response to the reality of those who struggle for the basic necessities of life, or for those who grapple with doubt or a poverty of faith? The invitation today: to pray for those in need, either materially or spiritually.

Companioning Psalm Portion from Today's Readings

*I will praise the name of God in song,
and I will glorify him with thanksgiving:
See, you lowly ones, and be glad;
you who seek God, may your hearts revive!
For the LORD hears the poor,
and his own who are in bonds he spurns not.*

PSALM 69:30, 32-33

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