

May 11, 2024

Daily Reflections

Journeying through Easter



Center for Spiritual Development

NOW I AM GOING BACK TO THE FATHER

By Sr. Jeanne Fallon, CSJ

Today's Gospel

Jesus said to his disciples: "Amen, amen, I say to you, whatever you ask the Father in my name he will give you. Until now you have not asked anything in my name; ask and you will receive, so that your joy may be complete. I have told you this in figures of speech. The hour is coming when I will no longer speak to you in figures, but I will tell you clearly about the Father. On that day you will ask in my name, and I do not tell you that I will ask the Father for you. For the Father himself loves you, because you have loved me and have come to believe that I came from God. I came from the Father and have come into the world. Now I am leaving the world and going back to the Father."

JOHN 16:23b-28

Reflection

Once again, this passage is part of the farewell words of Jesus to his beloved

disciples at the Last Supper. Now he speaks clearly: *Ask the Father in my name ... the Father himself loves you ...* The disciples will experience the love of the Father for them in the manner they have love for each other. The tone of this passage reflects the inclusion of the disciples into the movement of love happening in the mutual embrace of the Trinity. And now the disciples are made welcome to enter into the flow of divine love. Notice the joy in Jesus' words as he announces his homecoming to his Father.

We remember that, at the time of the Incarnation, the Son of God emptied himself of honor and glory and became flesh in the womb of the Virgin Mary. Now, he will return to his Father who birthed him. In this movement, Jesus Christ brings all of us, his sisters and brothers, into the joy of the Three in One.



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For Prayer

As we enter into the mystery of the Ascension of the Lord on Sunday, let us rejoice with Jesus as he returns to the bosom of his Father. With all the angels and saints, may we join the heavenly choirs, singing our praise from the depths of our hearts. Let us pray:

*Lord Jesus, you live forever to intercede for us;
you have not left us orphans;
you promised to send us your Holy Spirit.
We rejoice that you are returning to the Father in Glory
as you bless us with peace.
Amen. Alleluia.*

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BENEDICTINE DAILY PRAYER**

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