

March 20, 2024

# Daily Reflections

*Journeying through Lent*



Center for Spiritual Development

## GENEROSITY OF HEART

By Sr. Jane DeLisle, CSJ

### Today's Verse Before the Gospel and An Excerpt from the Gospel

*Blessed are they who have kept the word with a generous heart and yield a harvest through perseverance.*

**LUKE 8:15**

*Jesus said to those Jews who believed in him, "If you remain in my word, you will truly be my disciples, and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free."*

**JOHN 8:31**

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## Reflection

In the six weeks of Lent, today is Wednesday of the fifth week. There are only

11 days left of Lent. Where has the time gone? This is a good time for hindsight reflection on the journey, to glean the graces offered, and to proceed with greater intent into Holy Week.

I have a photo of a dirt road wandering through the countryside. It is a reminder for me that I am on the road to holiness. The journey of renewal is unique to each one who embarks on the road to holiness. Lent invites us to pause, be still, listen, and focus on God's desire for a more intimate relationship with you and me. How has been the journey for you thus far?

For me, it hasn't been easy. Despite my best intentions, there were distractions and surprises along the way, time spent on unexpected projects, household responsibilities that were out of the norm. Yet, this is how life seems to proceed. I have come to realize that "interruptions," "distractions" and "surprise encounters" are all part of the journey as I traverse the landscape of my soul. Lent calls me to be more reflective, to ponder each moment as an encounter with God. In hindsight, grace has been abundant! God's presence more personal. God's voice heard in the unexpected twists and turns on this year's Lenten journey.

I am grateful for each invitation to give myself away. I rejoice in chance encounters that reveal God's dwelling in the other. I am thankful that each new day is a new opportunity to discover what God and the dear neighbor have for me today. I delight in the times of prayer, reflection, and inner discovery of grace and mercy that have embraced me each day. Looking back, I sense a greater inner freedom and deeper desire for God. The good news is that is never too early or too late to embark on the road to holiness, for God is always with me, loving me into life.

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Photo by Sr. Jane DeLisle, CSJ

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## For Pondering

- What has been my generosity quotient during these weeks of spiritual renewal?
- What do I glimpse of the "Harvest of Perseverance?"
- How do I experience greater freedom in my soul?

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## For Prayer

*God of life and journey,  
thank you for the yearly observance of 40 days of Lent.  
I am grateful for the opportunity to reflect more intentionally  
on my inner life and relationship with you amid daily activity.  
Jesus came to show me the way to belong more intentionally to you.  
Your love and presence are always with me.  
Help me be more conscious of your invitation to intimacy with you.  
May I engage these last days of this year's Lenten journey  
with renewed intention, so that I awake on Easter Morning  
more aware of You and your great love poured out in*



*Jesus' life, death, and resurrection.  
May I be more your own each day.  
Amen.*

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