



# Daily Reflections

**September 18, 2018**

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## Scripture

### **Luke 7: 11-17**

Jesus journeyed to a city called Nain,  
and his disciples and a large crowd accompanied him.  
As he drew near to the gate of the city,  
a man who had died was being carried out,  
the only son of his mother, and she was a widow.  
A large crowd from the city was with her.  
When the Lord saw her,  
he was moved with pity for her and said to her,  
"Do not weep."  
He stepped forward and touched the coffin;  
at this the bearers halted,  
and he said, "Young man, I tell you, arise!"  
The dead man sat up and began to speak,  
and Jesus gave him to his mother.  
Fear seized them all, and they glorified God, exclaiming,  
"A great prophet has arisen in our midst,"  
and "God has visited his people."  
This report about him spread through the whole of Judea  
and in all the surrounding region.

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## Our Scripture Reflection

The poor woman in today's Gospel reading would have been seen as doubly cursed by the people of her day. She was a widow and now she has lost her only son who would have been her sole means of support. She was now left to begging. Some for sure would have considered her a terrible sinner. After all, why would God allow such horrible things to happen to someone unless they had angered God in some way. Jesus paid no attention to such thinking. As He proclaimed in His inaugural speech at the synagogue in Nazareth: He came to "raise the dead to life and set captives free." Jesus raises the young man to life and "gave him to his mother." The praises of God are proclaimed by the witnesses to Jesus' powerful miracle.

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## **Food for your Journey**

If you use "stories of dead people coming to life" as a search phrase, you will find numerous articles on the subject. Here are a few:

"7 bizarre tales of people coming back from the dead," [theweek.com](http://theweek.com). June 8, 2012. Retrieved January 6, 2016.

Grace Murano, "10 people who woke up after being pronounced dead," [oddee.com](http://oddee.com). September 19, 2013. Retrieved January 6, 2016.

"5 shocking stories of dead people who came back to life," [spicyinformation.com](http://spicyinformation.com). Retrieved January 6, 2016.

And there are more. Some stories are found in all three articles. Here's one about a woman who woke up at her funeral and was so shocked, she had a heart attack and died.

"A Russian woman recently died, incredibly and tragically, after suffering a heart attack brought on by the utter shock of waking up at her own funeral. Fagilyu Mukhametzyanov, 49, had been mistakenly declared dead by doctors. She later woke up in a coffin surrounded by sobbing relatives, at which point she began screaming at the realization that she was about to be buried alive.

"Fagilyu, a resident of Kazan, was rushed back to the hospital, where she was declared dead a second time. This time, sadly, it was legitimate."

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## **A Prayer from the Heart**

Dear Jesus, You never allowed the people around You to struggle and suffer without helping them. Your compassion was without limits. Lord, help me to be compassionate towards those who are suffering. Help me to love them as You love them. Amen