



Daily Reflections

December 12, 2018

Scripture

Luke 1: 39-47

Mary set out
and traveled to the hill country in haste
to a town of Judah,
where she entered the house of Zechariah
and greeted Elizabeth.
When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting,
the infant leaped in her womb,
and Elizabeth, filled with the Holy Spirit,
cried out in a loud voice and said,
"Most blessed are you among women,
and blessed is the fruit of your womb.
And how does this happen to me,
that the mother of my Lord should come to me?
For at the moment the sound of your greeting reached my ears,
the infant in my womb leaped for joy.
Blessed are you who believed
that what was spoken to you by the Lord
would be fulfilled."
And Mary said:
"My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord."

Our Scripture Reflection

Our Scriptures and faith tradition tell us over and over again how God is always speaking to His people: Through His Word, through the Sacraments, through our prayers and through the merciful things we do for His poor. But, are we listening? One of the biggest complaints I hear from people as we get closer and closer to Christmas is: "It's been sooo busy, hard to catch my breath at times, so much to get done...." and I can hear God whisper back in response: "But what about the Gift of my only Son? Does He need all of your busyness? Is that what He or I really want?" What do you say to Him?

Food for your Journey

A story is told of a pagan who asked a rabbi, "Why did God speak to Moses from the thorn bush?" For the pagan thought God should have spoken instead in a peal of thunder on the peak of some majestic mountain. The rabbi answered, "To teach you that there is no place on Earth where God's glory is not, not even in a humble thorn bush."

-- Ken Gire,

Windows of the Soul

(Grand Rapids: Zondervan Publishing House, 1996), 44.

Do we really believe that "there is no time, no place, no event so earthly that God cannot be there, speaking through them"? These moments where Earth is crammed with heaven, these Bethlehem moments where something divine is birthed through very human wombs, will go unnoticed unless we realize the meek and unassuming way that God characteristically comes.

A Prayer from the Heart

Dear Jesus, Please give me the Grace, the wisdom to catch my breath and stop, look for You and listen to You. How sad it would be to rush rush, rush to celebrate Christmas and miss You in the process. Slow me down, Lord, and help me to hear You. Amen