

Day By Day

May 3, 2020 Easter 4A

First Reading ~ *from Acts 2:42-47*

They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and communal living, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. Everyone felt a sense of awe because many signs and wonders happened through the apostles. There was an intense sense of togetherness among all who believed; they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. Day by day, they met together in the temple, and they broke bread in their homes, and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having the goodwill of all people. And day by day God added to the community everyone who was experiencing liberation.

Second Reading ~ *adapted from Henri Nouwen in Turn My Mourning Into Dancing: Finding Hope in Hard Times*

If mourning and dancing are part of the same movement of grace, we can be grateful for every moment we have lived. We can claim our unique journey as God's way to mold our hearts to greater closeness. The cross, the primary symbol of our faith, invites us to see grace where there is pain; to see resurrection where there is death. The call to be grateful is a call to trust that every moment can be claimed as the way of the cross that leads to new life. When Jesus spoke to his disciples before his death and offered them his body as a gift of life, he shared with them everything he had lived— his joy as well as his pain, his suffering as well as his glory —and enabled them to move into their own mission, and to do so in deep gratitude. Day by day we find new reasons to believe that nothing will separate us from the love of God.