

## Daily Reflection

March 20, 2020

Psalm 88:9

"You have put my friends far from me;  
...I am in prison and cannot get free."

The Psalms have staying power because they capture the full range of human emotions. As is so often true, today's appointed lessons speak to this moment: <https://www.missionstclare.com/english/March/whole/morning/20m.html>

But Psalm 88 does much more than speak for us today. Verses 11-13 set the framework for the core Christian message:

Do you work wonders for the dead?  
will those who have died stand up and give you thanks?  
Will your loving-kindness be declared in the grave?  
your faithfulness in the land of destruction?  
Will your wonders be known in the dark?  
or your righteousness in the country where all  
is forgotten?

In Jesus, we hear God's resounding answer: **"YES!!"** In the life, suffering and death of Jesus, we see a God who enters the deepest human woe, including the specter of death.

Does this mean God will help you find milk or eggs or bread at the store today? If we said yes, we'd have to blame God when milk, eggs and bread are not to be found. No, the core truth revealed in Jesus is much more profound: As St. Paul said in Philippians 4:12-13, "I know what it is to have little, and I know what it is to have plenty. In any and all circumstances I have learned the secret of being well-fed and of going hungry, of having plenty and of being in need. I can do all things through him who strengthens me."

When anxiety strikes, spend time with Paul. He will take you to Jesus.

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