

Monastery of St. Clare

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Dear Friends,

I don't know about you, but I am really enjoying the liturgy of the Easter Season this year. I love all the extra "Alleluias" that we sing. In addition, the readings from the Acts of the Apostles are so full of the enthusiastic energy and zeal of the early church; you can feel the joy and determination of the disciples to spread the Good News! These readings also reveal the cost of this faithfulness to their mission: being persecuted, exiled and even stoned to death.

But all in all, you sense the hope and optimism brought about through the disciples' relationship with the Risen Jesus, the Christ! It gives me pause to reflect on my own level of enthusiasm and commitment to the message the Risen Christ carries for all of us.

What is that message? It's a message that life overcomes death, that an interior peace is ours to claim. This message needs to be shared and not kept to ourselves.

At the same time, I confess I feel called to have more empathy for my sisters and brothers who aren't experiencing this. I feel attachment, sympathy, empathy, and compassion for the suffering of the world, for the people of Iran and Gaza, the children of Ukraine, the starving people of Africa, the poorest of the poor, and all those who have been marginalized in the United States and around the world.

I pray that we may all experience the new life that Jesus offers and somehow be instruments of bringing that new life to others.

Thank you for partnering with us in praying for our world. Know that you and your loved ones are in our prayers every day. May God bless you with His peace!

With Easter blessings,

Sr. Nancy

Sr. Nancy and all your Poor Clare Sisters

May almighty God bless you. May God look upon you with mercy and give you peace.

— Blessing of St. Clare