

THIS WEEK'S SCRIPTURES

June 27, 2021

Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Wisdom 1:13-15, 2:23-24 † 2 Corinthians 8:7, 9, 13-15 † Mark 5:21-43



Reflection by: **Sister Donna L. Ciangio, OP**

Faith and Encounter

Today we reflect on faith and encounter. In Mark's Gospel there are two women, one young and one seasoned. The young woman had an intercessor who approached Jesus in faith to heal his daughter. The other, in faith, begged Jesus herself for healing. All, father and the women, had personal encounters with Jesus as he looked in their eyes and brought them the healing they needed.

This week I had a friend go home to God. She was an extraordinary woman in so many ways with a wonderful husband and family. I was able to see her and pray with her on Saturday and, although it was very difficult, we talked a little and prayed together. I thought of this Gospel and wished she could be cured and made whole again. Instead, I realized that she was encountering Jesus on a deeper level than I understood in those moments. Her prayer never ceased, and she was seeing and longing to be with Christ even through her veil of suffering.

Wisdom tells us that God "formed [human persons] to be imperishable" and so we are, not in physical body, but surely in spirit. Maria is alive in her spirit and seeing the face of God, as are all of our loved ones who have gone before us. Thanks be to God.