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20 Monday

Monday, Week 7 of Ordinary Time

James 3:13-18

Ps 18: 8-10,15

Mark 9: 14-29

Today we're back to "Ordinary" time, down on the ground again after being on the high plateau of the Easter season, and the time of Lent before that. Resuming daily reading again from St Mark's gospel, we find Jesus (with Peter, James and John) rejoining his other disciples after coming down from the mountain of the Transfiguration. The first "case" He has to deal with brings up the same question as before, about faith or lack of faith in asking for God's healing. The faith of the man who asked Jesus to cure his son has been a strength and inspiration to many people since: "if you can", he had said to Jesus, as if not being sure of what He could do. Perhaps like a lot of our own prayers, asking but not quite sure? But then when Jesus forcefully told him that everything is possible for a person who believes, the man immediately asked for the fullness of that gift: "I do believe, but help my lack of belief". Having these many weeks been celebrating the Resurrection of Jesus, been "with Him on the mountain", should we not now be full of a joyful faith and trust in Him and in the transformation He's brought us? Of course He can help: but can we trust enough, believe strongly enough, and really pray for the power to work with Him?

Lord, help me in the weakness of my faith and trust, which is still there even though I've seen your risen glory and the power of God's love in my world.

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