

Today's Devotional is provided by Rev. Dr. Robin Hawley Gorsline

Faithful Extravagance

The poor we always have with us.
God's truth is reach out, feed, house,
clothe, care—not in tightfisted
begrudging dutiful charity ways,
and certainly not to pretend
poor people alone are to blame
for their reality and we who are not poor
are innocent—embrace God's beloved,
all of us siblings in the divine family.



Let's follow Mary at table,
pouring the soul gift—a gift from
God—
like cheap wine at a block party
where no one has to worry about
driving home,
a fountain of living loving liquid
to quench the dried out hearts
and weary bodies of neighbors in
need
of laughter, joy, mountains of

love
to feed children's empty bellies,
to ease pains of living on edge,
not sure when the next paycheck comes
if it will, or whether there even is a job.

Mary chose expensive ointment, showing
how to value those we love by stretching
beyond the comfortable to lavish,
doing a new thing dazzling in simplicity,
grace and intimacy, using her own hair
as the agent of anointing, adoration,
and announcement of devotion to Jesus

beyond the well-trod ways.
Can you imagine presidential candidates
really hugging people, not photo ops,
really listening, not video moments,
telling whole truths in love, not advantage
against the other side?
That's the revolution Mary began
and we are called to continue.

When will you let your hair down
long enough to bathe your neighbor
and the world in endless pure love,
no conditions, no walls,
just love, more love still, an extravagance of love?