

## Putting Love In Action

Each month, we gather at Room In The Inn to remember in our community who have died. We pray, share memories, and add their names the ceramic leaves on our memorial trees.

Take some time to quietly reflect on loss you have experienced. Who or what have you lost? What do you still carry in your heart.

Using the leaf-shaped space below, write a name, a word, or a symbol.

Sit quietly for a moment and notice:

- What do I miss?
- What did this person or season mean to me?
- Where do I still feel this loss?

Allow a moment of silence. If you feel it is appropriate, reach out to a loved one to share.



*Help make leaves for our memorial tree  
Good Friday, April 3 at 10:30 A.M.  
Room In The Inn - Art Room*



## Where Brokenness Meets Blessing

LENT WITH THE ROOM IN THE INN COMMUNITY



Ash Wednesday at Room In The Inn

**Blessed are those who  
mourn, for they will be  
comforted.**

MATTHEW 5:4

FEBRUARY 25, 2026 | WEEK TWO


# Close Enough to Weep

Out of sight, out of mind. Much of our culture trains us to keep a safe distance from pain. If we can keep ourselves from a direct encounter with what is ugly—poverty, hunger, addiction, and death—we don't have to bear the burden. We can scroll past it, step around it, explain it away.

Richard Rohr says that **one of the best ways to know God is through weeping**. "Jesus praises those who can enter into solidarity with the pain of the world and not try to remove or isolate themselves from its suffering. This is why Jesus says the rich person often can't see the Kingdom, because they spend too much time trying to make tears unnecessary and even impossible."

Room In The Inn is an intentional refusal of distance. It brings together who might otherwise remain strangers and invites them into proximity—close enough to hear one another's stories, close enough to feel the pain of injustice, close enough to risk having our hearts broken.

And in that breaking, something holy happens. When we become witnesses to suffering instead of turning away, our weeping becomes prayer. Our shared grief becomes deeper communion with the God who is near to the brokenhearted and saves the crushed in spirit.



**Ring the bells that still can ring  
Forget your perfect offering  
There is a crack in everything  
That's how the light gets in.**

Leonard Cohen

## Question of the Week

# What kinds of losses - big and small - have shaped your life?

A Few Responses to Last Week's Question:

**What is something everyone needs, no matter who they are?**



Love, acceptance, forgiveness, understanding. -Susan

Drinkable water  
-Mary



A smile. It means the same thing in all cultures.  
-Leanne



Everyone needs companions on the journey, people who walk with us through the phases of our lives, offering shared silence and sacred conversation.

-Sue

"When tears come, I breathe deeply and rest. I know I am swimming in a hallowed stream where many have gone before. I am not alone, crazy, or having a nervous breakdown... My heart is at work. My soul is awake."

Mary Margaret Funk, OSB

Not dead but alive  
Not losing but won  
Not sad but happy  
Not high but sober  
Not last but first  
Not over but just  
start

by a Room In The Inn community member