

March 14, 2021, 2021
Fourth Sunday of Lent
2 Chronicles 36: 14-16, 19-23
Psalm 137
Ephesians 2: 4-10
John 3: 14-21

Let Us Remain in the Lord.

"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him."

Normally I permit you to read the scriptures of the day on your own and do not take space to write them here. However, the above passage is very profound. Thus, I print it here for emphasis. It is taken from our second reading, Ephesians 2. One can say it is the kernel of the Truth. It is what gives us hope in the face of all matters of life. It even gives us direction.

Jesus Christ is the fulness of Revelation. God cannot make himself any more known than to come in the flesh. He truly knows what it is to walk in the shoes of his creatures. What is more, we may relate to him because he has been so intimately present to us. Jesus spoke in clear ways and demonstrated God's creative love in signs and wonders. He cured and made people whole.

God does not want us to be lost and condemned. He wants us in love with him because of his love for us. He even loves us as we might wander away from him. God pursues us all the time. The consequences of wandering from God, however, are shown in the first reading.

Whenever God's people have lessened their discipline and moved away from God bad things happened. The same may be said for today. In Old Testament days the people found themselves overtaken by enemies and they became enslaved. Today we find ourselves with a sick planet and strained relationships between people and whole nations. Yet, even as there was in Old Testament times there is hope today.

Among other things, a major issue for today is the desire for short term gains. People find it hard to postpone immediate gratification. This is combined with tribalism, "my people only". We want to be satisfied right now. If there is a sharing of fortune it is with our immediate circle. If the immediate circle is not in full agreement with us, then we attempt to "go it alone". We think we are in charge of our destiny. Such belief and attitude leave us destitute in the long run and perhaps sooner than later.

The people of the Old Testament were renewed when they recognized their wrong direction. They made known their repentance and God aided their return. In today's story King Cyrus became the instrument of the people's renewal.

Take stock of your life. Do you look beyond yourself and your own circle? Do you have a view for the next generation? Do you try to bring people together to work on a long view besides provide for the present? Do you look to God as the source and guide to wholeness?

Believe in God. The Lord does exist. In his love and goodness he does not condemn. Rather, by his Grace he saves you, me, and all others. His love is pure gift. Let us remain in the Lord.

<u>Stewardship</u>	
Attendance last week:	233
Tithes Collected:	\$7,052.00
Online Giving:	\$355.00
Total:	\$7,407.00
2 nd Collection for the Church in Latin America:	\$305.00
Thank you!	

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS
Jer31: 31-34; Heb5: 7-9; Jn12:20-33

Tithes (Donations) for Easter
Please plan for making an extraordinary tithe for Easter! It is much needed to support the mission of the parish. We want to be here to welcome all who seek wholeness in the Lord.

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE
April 1st: Holy Thursday 7:00 PM
April 2nd: Good Friday 7:00 PM
April 3rd: Holy Saturday -Easter Vigil 8:00 PM
April 4th : Easter Sunday 9:00 AM & 10:45 AM

LITURGY FOR MARCH 14, 2021
4th SUNDAY OF LENT-B

- **SONG #1: THE GLORY OF THESE FORTY DAYS**
(Wittenberg/Bach/St. Gregory the Great)
 1. The glory of these forty days we celebrate with songs of praise; For Christ, by whom all things were made, Himself has fasted and has prayed.
 2. Alone and fasting Moses saw the loving God who gave the law; and to Elijah, fasting, came the steeds and chariots of flame.
 3. So Daniel trained his mystic sight, delivered from the lions' might; and John, the Bridegroom's friend, became the herald of Messiah's name.
 4. Then grant that we like them be true, consumed in fast and pray'r with you; our spirits strengthen with your grace, and give us joy to see your face.
 5. O Father, Son, the Spirit blest, to you be ev'ry pray'r addressed; who are in threefold name adored, from age to age the only Lord.
- **PSALM 137: (D. Pérez-Cuan)**
LET MY TONGUE BE SILENCED, IF EVER I FORGET YOU!

• **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:**
PRAISE TO YOU, LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF ENDLESS GLORY:

God so loved the world that He gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might have eternal life.

• **SONG #2: CHRIST BE BESIDE ME** (ST.Rose/Watson)

1. Christ be beside me, Christ be before me, Christ be behind me, King of my heart. Christ be within me, Christ be below me, Christ be above me, never to part.
2. Christ on my right hand, Christ on my left hand, Christ all around me, shield in the strife. Christ in my sleeping, Christ in my sitting, Christ in my rising, light of my life.
3. Christ be in all hearts thinking about me; Christ be on all tongues telling of me. Christ be the vision in the eyes that see me; in ears that hear me, Christ ever be.

SONG #3: FOR GOD SO LOVED THE WORLD (D. Pérez-Cuan)

1. For God so loved the world that He gave his One and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.
2. Know that He loves you! You know He loves you! Like no one has ever loved you. Like no one could ever love you.
3. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him. But whoever lives by truth comes into the light so that it may be seen plainly, that what they've done has been done in the sight of God.
4. Know that He loves you! You know He loves you! Like no one has ever loved you. Like no one could ever love.
5. For God so loved the world that He gave his one and only Son, for you, for me, for us!

• **SONG #4: THRONE OF PRAISE** (R. Fragar)

• **SONG # 5: BEYOND THE DAYS** (R. Manalo)

**BEYOND THE DAYS OF HOPE AND MYSTERY WE SEE
 A LIGHT OF FAITH RENEWED, AND IN OUR
 LONGING WE THRIST FOR GUIDANCE TO WALK
 WITH YOU DAY BY DAY, TO WALK WITH YOU DAY
 BY DAY.**

1. Forty days and nights, you guide the steps of our journey. May your presence be felt in the whisper of your voice.
2. Not on bread alone we are to walk on this journey. Speak the words that give life to the yearning of our hearts.

3. In your hands, O God, we feel the touch of your guidance. Keep us safe in your care: may your gentleness be there.
4. On your Lenten path we see the dawn of a new day. Be our vision of hope; be the promise of our lives.

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PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK: Joe Alfaro, Jordan Almendral, JoAnn Anderson, Michael Beard, Karen Becker, Mary Benivegna, Margarita Bogle, Tom Carver, Sean Chin, Robert Clark, Mary Collis, John Cooper, Logan Costante, Gregoria Daen, Sam DeMarco, Ines DeSalle, Roseanne DeSimone, Lisa DeStasio, John Dooney, Nelson Douaihi, Peggy Duff, Susan Fabbri, Lisa Findlay, Megan Forrester, Joshua Freeman, Richard Gossett, Ana Gilajota, Stephen Goch, Keri Greenan, Richard & Cathy Harper, Tyler Harrison, Cindy Hogman, Tiffany Kentosh, Butch Klinger, John LaNeve, Judith Kolo, Tamika Lee, Bernie Ligget, Gail Martin, Sean Martin, Mary McKelvey, Betsy McMahan, Clare McMahan, Frank McNeil, Rylee Mertz, Dan Murphy, Teresita Nazareno, Lauren Nicole, Thomas O'Brien, Barbara Perry, Della Mae Reblin, Lucy Reitano, Coleen Riley, Dee Ripple, Matilda Rivier, Charles Rousseau, Anthony Ruggiero, Theresa Schluter, Brad Schroder, Ellen Seaman, Roger Sherman, Jim Smullen, Vivian Spasiano, Rick Steffan, M. Stoufer, Richard Taylor, Antoinette Teresi, Constantino Thomas, Margarita Verano, Peggy Weiss, Ed Wrisley, Nancy Zakem, Marie & Jeff, Lucas Zaky

MASS INTENTIONS

- Saturday, March 13
 4:00 p.m. For Vocations by Parish
 † Jean Ingraham by Linda & Peggy
- Sunday, March 14
 9:00 a.m. † D.C. Stanfa by Chris & Jim Jordan
 10:45 a.m. † Tilly Brommer by Anita
 † Thomas Cowell by Sean Kennedy
- Monday, March 15
 8:00 a.m. NO MASS
- Tuesday, March 16
 8:00 a.m. Maria Hernandez by Dan Murphy
- Wednesday, March 17
 8:00 a.m. † Tina Bishara by Family
- Thursday, March 18
 8:00 a.m. † Rey Lizcano by Friends
- Friday, March 19
 8:00 a.m. † Andrew Murphy by Doris Emmett
- Saturday, March 20
 4:00 p.m. † Mary & Louis Michel by Anthony & Rosemary
 † Jean Ingraham by Linda & Peggy
- Sunday, March 21
 9:00 a.m. Blessed Sacrament Parish
 10:45 a.m. For Vocations by Parish