

WEDNESDAY – FOURTH WEEK OF LENT – 22 MARCH

Isaiah 49: 8 -15; Psalm 145: 8 – 9, 13cd – 14, 17 – 18; John 5: 17 -30

Theme: Lent a time for life giving love that flow from the Divine Love of the Trinity

Reflection:

Lent is indeed a time of favour, a season of salvation. The prophet Isaiah puts on the lips of the Lord these encouraging words addressed to all of us during the Lenten period, ***“I have helped you; I have kept you and given you as a covenant to the people, establish the land, to apportion the desolate heritages...”*** Lent is a time to allow us to be claimed by God and allow ourselves to be liberated from the addictions of contemporary life that claim us. Lent is meant to make us aware of the tender love of God our Father. The image of maternal love in the first reading illustrates the God of our faith, ***“Can a woman forget her sucking child, that she should have no compassion on the son of her womb?”*** Jesus Christ in the Gospel of John (5:17–30) reveals the love of God that does not see the Sabbath as a barrier to the love of God. The relationship between the Father and the Son reveals the flow of love between them. ***“For the Father loves the Son, and shows him all that he himself is doing; and greater works than these will he show him, that you may marvel.”***

This Divine Life of the Trinitarian Love flows into our lives through the Sacraments of the Church. We received this life in Baptism and Confirmation while this Divine Life we call Grace flows into our hearts and souls in the Sacrament of Reconciliation and Penance and principally in the Eucharist.

Family Reflection Question:

1. How can we truly appreciate the life of God that flows to us in the sacramental life?
2. How can your family spark the flame of Divine Fire in your hearts in the Sacraments of Eucharist and Confession?
3. How can you cultivate a relationship with the Trinity?

THURSDAY – FOURTH WEEK OF LENT – 23 MARCH

Exodus 32: 7 – 14; Psalm 106: 19 – 23; John 5: 31 – 47 Hosea 6:1 – 6;

Theme: Lent a time to worship the true God even when we are experiencing a crisis.

Reflection:

The story of Israel and God is a history of belief and unbelief. The People of Israel were faithful to God only when it suited them. Immediately when the going got tough they fled into idolatry. In the first reading, the Lord realises that the People have forgotten Him and start worship false gods of their own making.

“Go down; your people, whom you brought up out of the land of Egypt, have corrupted themselves; they have turned aside quickly out of the way which I commanded them; they have made for themselves a molten calf, and have worshipped it and sacrificed to it...”

This is a parable of liberation. In South Africa, immediately after liberation, the government forgot about God. They started worship the false god of power and wealth. A nation that cried to God during apartheid is now moving away from Him. The bill for the termination of pregnancy was among the first indications that South Africa was no longer loyal to the God of Liberation.

The Gospel of John calls us to bear witness to the truth, John the Baptist bore witness to the truth of Christ and was killed. We are called to bear witness to the truth without fear nor favour. To be truly freely is to bear witness to the truth.

Family Reflection Question:

1. How are we bearing witness to the truth in our families?
2. Do our family values bear witness to the God of truth?
3. Do we appreciate our liberation of God in Christ?