



OPENING PRAYER

+In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, Amen

Father God, thank you for this time with you. May the Holy Spirit be upon me, that I may receive wisdom from your Word, be open to Your holy Will and give glory to You always. Through Christ our Lord, Amen
Our Father + Hail Mary + Glory Be

LECTIO DIVINA

Invite the Holy Spirit - Read - Reflect - Respond in Prayer - Rest in Silence

Gospel: John 3:14-21 [YEAR B] * FOR SCRUTINIES, YEAR A - JOHN 9:1-41, STORY OF THE BLIND MAN

Jesus said to Nicodemus: "Just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, so that everyone who believes in him may have eternal life." 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. Whoever believes in him will not be condemned, but whoever does not believe has already been condemned, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God. And this is the verdict, that the light came into the world, but people preferred darkness to light, because their works were evil. For everyone who does wicked things hates the light and does not come toward the light, so that his works might not be exposed. But whoever lives the truth comes to the light, so that his works may be clearly seen as done in God.

Nicodemus though a pharisee, believes in the resurrection. He carefully opens himself up to God. Have there been times when you have hesitated to approach God? When other people question your faith, how to you respond? We can confidently approach God because He promises salvation rather than condemnation. How can we more openly and publicly pursue our faith? Why is this necessary?

Reading I : 2 Chronicles 26:14-16, 19-23 [YEAR B]

In those days, all the princes of Judah, the priests, and the people added infidelity to infidelity, practicing all the abominations of the nations and polluting the LORD's temple which he had consecrated in Jerusalem. Early and often did the LORD, the God of their fathers, send his messengers to them, for he had compassion on his people and his dwelling place. But they mocked the messengers of God, despised his warnings, and scoffed at his prophets, until the anger of the LORD against his people was so inflamed that there was no remedy. Their enemies burnt the house of God, tore down the walls of Jerusalem, set all its palaces afire, and destroyed all its precious objects. Those who escaped the sword were carried captive to Babylon, where they became servants of the king of the Chaldeans and his sons until the kingdom of the Persians came to power. All this was to fulfill the word of the LORD spoken by Jeremiah: "Until the land has retrieved its lost sabbaths, during all the time it lies waste it shall have rest while seventy years are fulfilled." In the first year of Cyrus, king of Persia, in order to fulfill the word of the LORD spoken by Jeremiah, the LORD inspired King Cyrus of Persia to issue this proclamation throughout his kingdom, both by word of mouth and in writing: "Thus says Cyrus, king of Persia: All the kingdoms of the earth the LORD, the God of heaven, has given to me, and he has also charged me to build him a house in Jerusalem, which is in Judah. Whoever, therefore, among you belongs to any part of his people, let him go up, and may his God be with him!"

In this reading the destruction and restoration of Jerusalem is recounted. God sent prophets as expressions of His divine compassion. Have there been times in your life when you did not recognize God reaching out to you? Have you ever encountered God's persistence with you? Have you seen God's faithfulness towards you during times of unfaithfulness?

Notes

RESPONSORIAL PSALM RESPONSE: Let my tongue be silenced, if I ever forget you!

Reading II: Ephesians 2: 4-10 [YEAR B]

Brothers and sisters: God, who is rich in mercy, because of the great love he had for us, even when we were dead in our transgressions, brought us to life with Christ – by grace you have been saved –, raised us up with him, and seated us with him in the heavens in Christ Jesus, that in the ages to come He might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus. For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not from you; it is the gift of God; it is not from works, so no one may boast. For we are his handiwork, created in Christ Jesus for the good works that God has prepared in advance, that we should live in them.

St. Paul announces how God is rich in mercy. We enjoy abiding communion with God because of His saving work in Christ. What would you consider immeasurable riches in your own life? Salvation is from God alone. How can we respond generously to Christ’s love and mercy as we near Easter?

Turning from darkness to light, is symbolized in the healing of the man born blind. God illumines our soul, but not without our cooperation and obedience.

Feast days this week

SUNDAY 10 FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT
MONDAY 11 LENTEN WEEKDAY
TUESDAY 12 LENTEN WEEKDAY
WEDNESDAY 13 LENTEN WEEKDAY
THURSDAY 14 LENTEN WEEKDAY
FRIDAY 15 LENTEN WEEKDAY
SATURDAY 16 LENTEN WEEKDAY

Jesus heard that they had cast him out, and having found him he said, "Do you believe in the Son of man?" He answered, "And who is he, sir, that I may believe in him?" Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, and it is he who speaks to you."

He said,

"Lord, I believe";

and he worshiped him.

reflect

Have I ever been fearful or too careful of expressing my faith in God?

pray

Father God, thank you for all you have given me, may I always appreciate your gifts!
Through Christ our Lord,
Amen

live

Steady and ongoing conversion helps us turn our attention to God.