

From the Pastor's Office

2nd Sunday of Lent

The Book of Genesis tells us today, "Go forth from the land of your kinfolk and from your father's house to a land that I will show you." The disciple is one who goes on the journey. We follow the Lord. Our destination is the Promised Land of Heaven. We are to travel lightly. Right now we won't be needing our moisturizers or our water bottles or our cell phones. The ones who follow the Lord will receive from the Lord all that they need. Around this time of the year, our OCIA people will be going on a little trip of their own. They will officially go to meet the Bishop of Austin. That will be exciting for them. Things are starting to get serious. God promises us that He will bless us as we walk. How often people stop me after Mass to ask for a blessing because they are going on a trip. The journey theme continues in Paul's letter today. He tells Timothy to bear his share of hardship for the gospel with the strength that comes from God. Along the pilgrim way there is always hardship. Walking miles every day along the trails brings its own difficulties and challenges. So also it is along the Christian way. Jesus takes a few of the Apostles on another trek up the mountain. I am not good on mountains. The gradual climb wreaks havoc on my feet. However, this climb will be worth it because Jesus reveals Himself as completely divine to them. "His face shone like the sun and his clothes became white as light." I think if I stood there and saw that I would be a bit afraid. They say be careful what you wish for because you might get it. "O, Lord, please appear to me in a big Heavenly apparition. Turn me into one of those Saints. Make me feel special so I can become a statue in a Church. I have been specially chosen by God." Truth is I am quite happy standing over here. You go and enjoy your Heavenly apparition. Tell me about it later. Seemingly it was wonderful. So much so that Peter couldn't stop going on about it. The great commentators tell us that it is about the journey, not the destination. I am quite happy with the journey as long as there is a restaurant at the end of it. On our parish tour a few years ago, we trekked up the mountain in Switzerland. Then we trekked across the high mountain valley. Thankfully there was a restaurant at the end of the trail where we had lunch. We sat for a few hours looking at a huge glacier coming down the mountain across this huge valley. OMG!



With love,
Fr. Pat