

What Do I Truly Value?

Paula D'Arcy

Years ago I took voice lessons from an acclaimed musician. He was well-known and highly regarded for his talents, and the lessons were a generous gift. At the time we were both on the faculty of the same college. I scheduled these lessons in between appointments with my students and I was late for my lesson. I could have been on time, actually, but the first time I stopped to speak briefly with another faculty member, the second time I delayed to make a phone call that wasn't critical. The third time my friend said to me, "If you were paying for this hour, you wouldn't be late."

The words stung. I knew he was right, and I instantly saw that my tardiness reflected the value I placed on the opportunity he was offering. I felt ashamed and was never late again. I did value the gift.



Sometimes I remember that moment in regard to my own inner journey. I hear a voice in a whisper, "If you really saw the gift of life you've been given, you wouldn't throw it away." It jolts me from a preoccupation with a thousand peripheral things. It makes me aware of how my default position in life easily

becomes my comfort, my ease, my desire to be appreciated and loved.

For a time I stayed in a European town that was founded in 1338. I walked toward a small stone church on a path that others have walked for centuries. At night I listened to the stories of these villagers, remembrances of fearful years lived under a communist occupation. Outwardly they learned to appear faithful to the government's avowed atheism, safety depending upon this pretense. Children were taught to repeat the lies as well. But their hearts and souls knew differently, and at Easter they closed the curtains and spoke truth in whispers.

"How did you keep joy alive?" I asked. "When you see the value of being alive," one woman answered slowly, "when you know the value of life itself—there is joy." She smiles. "Life is the greatest gift." I wonder: Do I value what I say I value? †

Source: *Daybreaks: Daily Reflections for Lent and Easter*, 2007

Wisdom from Catholic UPDATE

Excerpt from *Lent: Giving Our Hearts to God* by Joyce Rupp, OSM

I used to dread Lent. Then one year it finally dawned on me that this liturgical season gives me a focused opportunity to rearrange my spiritual priorities. Lent helps me gain clarity on how I am living my daily life. It is so easy to get swallowed up by the constant busyness and hectic pace of life. Lent helps me step back for six weeks and look more closely at how I am relating to God and to see who I am becoming. I realize that there is still a part of my heart that forgets, refuses, procrastinates, fears, or is unaware of how much it needs to reflect the goodness of God. †

Catholic Update is a practical and affordable four-page newsletter that explores Catholic teaching and tradition on contemporary topics in easy-to-understand language. To subscribe, visit Liguori.org or call 800-325-9526.



So that we may enter this season of Lent with minds open to hear your word, and hearts open to the promise of Easter, we pray—Lord, let us be like you.


The Redemptorists

WEEKDAY READINGS

February 19–24

Monday, Lenten Weekday:
Lv 19:1–2, 11–18 / Mt 25:31–46
Tuesday, Lenten Weekday:
Is 55:10–11 / Mt 6:7–15
Wednesday, Lenten Weekday:
Jon 3:1–10 / Lk 11:29–32

Thursday, Chair of Saint Peter the Apostle:
1 Pt 5:1–4 / Mt 16:13–19
Friday, Lenten Weekday:
Ez 18:21–28 / Mt 5:20–26
Saturday, Lenten Weekday:
Dt 26:16–19 / Mt 5:43–48

Bringing Home
the Word 
February 18, 2024

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Bringing Home
the Word 

First Sunday of Lent (B)
February 18, 2024

Lost at Sea

Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

We often think that Lent is a time to concentrate on the sufferings of Jesus. Actually, that is the theme of Holy Week. The other readings of Lent suggest another theme—covenant-making. God initiates an intimate relationship with us and calls us to be faithful. This is the good news. Moreover, when we are unfaithful, God gives us another chance.

The first reading recounts God's graciousness in saving humankind from destruction. Noah and his family must have felt that they really were lost at sea. However, God's protection was always

there. In fact, the waters they so feared were destructive only to what was evil. They had been saved and now, through the covenant, all of creation was given a second chance.

One might think that Jesus wouldn't have struggled with temptation. After all, he was God. However, today's Gospel says that he was tempted. He was in the wilderness, a place long known to be a place of temptation because there the supports of normal life are gone. After forty days of fasting, one's defenses would be significantly weakened, if not broken down. In such a situation, the primary thought is survival. This Gospel does not describe the temptation itself, but it does present Jesus as someone like us—weakened, tempted, and perhaps even "lost at sea." However, God's protection was with him, in the guise of angels.

Both stories assure us that God's covenantal care is there supporting us, regardless of the difficulty or our apparent weakness. †

Sunday Readings

Genesis 9:8–15

[God said,] "I set my bow in the clouds to serve as a sign of the covenant between me and the earth."

1 Peter 3:18–22

[Baptism] is not a removal of dirt from the body but an appeal to God for a clear conscience.

Mark 1:12–15

[Jesus said,] "This is the time of fulfillment. The kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel."

God initiates an intimate
relationship with us and
calls us to be faithful.
This is the good news.

A Word from
Pope Francis

True happiness and true freedom are not found in possessing, but in sharing; not in taking advantage of others, but in loving them; not in the obsession of power, but in the joy of service....Let us take time for silence and prayer — just a little, it will do us good....

ANGELUS, ROME, MARCH 6, 2022



REFLECTION
QUESTIONS
ONE?TWO? REFLECTION

- Where do you look for God when life seems unfair?
- Do you ask for the grace to resist temptation?



Parish of St. Vincent De Paul

"We as a community rooted in the Catholic faith seek to imitate Christ's
Examples of love and service to others and spread the light of our faith to others."
Parish phone: 509-234-2262 **Feb. 18, 2024** website: stvincentconnell.org

Fr. Lutakome Deo Nsubuga

Deacon Arturo Biebrich parish phone: 509-222-9223 after 5 pm only

1st Sunday of Lent

Mass Feb. 18, 2024

Lector: Marv Grassl

EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS:

Stacy F., Wally G.

Greeters & Presentation of Gift

Emily & Hector Lopez

Altar Servers:

Isabella & Nadia Holt

2nd Sunday of Lent

Mass Feb. 25, 2024

Lector: Greg Hart

EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS:

Mike R. Eloisa M.

Greeters & Presentation of Gift

Mike & Jeannie Reimers

Alter Servers:

Adrian & Giselle

Pope's Prayer Intentions:

For the terminally ill;

We pray that those with a terminal illness, and
their families, receive the necessary physical
and spiritual care and accompaniment.

Mass Schedule

Sunday: 8:00 a.m. @ St. Paul's in Eltopia

10:30 a.m. @ St. Vincent's (English)

12:00 p.m. @ St. Vincent's (Spanish)

2:00 pm @ San Juan Diego (Spanish)

Saturday: 7:00 p.m. @ San Juan Diego (Spanish)

Wednesday: 8:00 a.m. Adoration @ St. Vincent's

8:30 a.m. Mass @ St. Vincent's

Confessions: Wednesdays 6:30 pm @ St. Vincent's

Friday 4:30 pm @ San Juan Diego

Church Secretary: Elida Fernández - secSt.vincent2015@gmail.com

Tues, Weds. Thurs 12:00 pm – 3:30 pm

Elida can be reached at 509-318-0917; 12 pm – 3:30 pm on Tues. Weds. Thurs.

Prayer Chain: Call Carolyn Nordhus @ 509-234-5972

Breezeway Calendar: If you have any parish events or meetings that you would like
on the all-parish calendar that is posted in the breezeway please contact
Marla Goade @ 539-5354 wmgoade73@gmail.com

Weekly Bulletin: Please email Elida Fernández secSt.vincent2015@gmail.com by
WEDNESDAY EVENINGS for information to be included in the upcoming Sunday
bulletin. Elida can be reached at 509-318-0917

Website: To add or send information, pictures or news to the website please
email Jaeniffer Kaiser @ jaeniffer2002@hotmail.com

LIKE our Facebook page to get updated posts and information about our parish. You can also
see photos of all the activities that have been happening. If you want to post church happenings on
Facebook, please email Onna Pollock at olpollock@yahoo.com

UPCOMING EVENTS MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Altar Flowers

Feb. – Guadalupanas

Mar. – Altar Society

CONFESSIONS

This Wednesday Feb. 21th

@ St. Vincent Parish @ 6:30 pm

This Friday Feb. 23th

@ San Juan Diego @ 4:30 pm

Confession Schedule

@ St. Pat's –Pasco

Wednesdays

5 pm – 8 pm

@ Sacred Heart- Othello

Wed. @ 5 pm

Connell Food Bank

Banco de Comida

Seniors: Tuesdays

3rd Edad- Tues. / Martes

Feb. 27

10:00 am – 11:30 am

General Public:

El público en general:

Wed. / Miércoles

Feb. 28

9:00 am – 1:00 pm

5:00 pm – 6:30 pm

Thank You for Your Generous Contributions

Feb. 4, 2024

10:30 am - \$949.96

12:00 pm – \$857.00

Basin City – \$1744.37

Feb. 11, 2024

10:30 am - \$3918.53

12:00 pm – \$676.25

Basin City – \$884.00

Feb. 18, 2024

10:30 am - \$

12:00 pm – \$

Basin City – \$

Feb. 25, 2024

10:30 am - \$

12:00 pm – \$

Basin City – \$

MIDDLE SCHOOL PROGRAM

No meeting this Monday, the 19th

See everyone next Monday the 26th.

@ 6:30 pm

High School Rel. Ed

Meets this Wednesday 21st

See everyone on this Wednesday!

@ 5:30 pm

ANNUAL LENT FISH DINNER

Friday, March 8th

5:00 pm – 7:00 pm

Everyone is invited.

This community event is sponsored by
the Knights of Columbus, all proceeds
go towards community projects.

DESERT WAY OF THE CROSS

Sunday March 24, 2024

Meet at St. Vincent's back parking lot
and for bus transportation at 2:00 pm
Further details on the clipboard sign-up
sheet at the entrance of the church.

FR. LUTA'S SCHEDULE FOR the WEEK:

Feb. 18, 2024 – Feb. 25, 2024

Keep Fr. Luta in your prayers

Mon. Feb. 19:

Fr. Luta's day of rest

6:30 pm Middle School Program meets

Tues Feb. 20:

4:00 pm Confessions @ Eltopia

5:00 pm Knights of Columbus

Wed. Feb. 21:

7:30 am Adoration @ Connell

8:30 am Mass @ Connell

5:30 pm Hi School Religious Ed. @ Connell

Thurs. Feb. 22:

10:00 am Adoration @ Eltopia

10:30 am Mass @ Eltopia

Fri. Feb. 23:

4:30 pm Confessions @ Basin City

pm Stations of the Cross @ Connell

Sat. Feb. 24:

7:00 pm Mass @ Basin City

Sun. Feb. 25: Mass

8:00 am Mass @ Eltopia

10:30 am Mass @ Connell

12:00 pm Mass @ Connell

2:00 pm Mass @ Basin City

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

On Fridays at St. Vincent Parish

Followed by a light supper, all are
encouraged to join and bring some soup
(no meat) to share with all participating
parishioners.