

3rd Wednesday of Lent “Remembering Who We Are”

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Hi everyone. I hope you are having a good day. I think it is realistic to expect that we will have good days and bad days through these times we live in. However, since you are watching this, I think you might agree that it is always therapeutic to take time each day and allow the Word of God to fill our hearts. For me, it's medicine. Thank you for joining me today. As always I invite you to check the readings out at usccb.org. And, here is the reflection for the day.

The Book of Deuteronomy is essentially the parting discourses of Moses to the Chosen People at the end of his life. He is giving them whatever wisdom they need to continue on without him. In today's passage, Moses warns them, “Take care and be earnestly on your guard. Don't forget the things which your own eyes have seen, nor let them slip from your memory as long as you live, but teach them to your children and to your children's children.”

In our Gospel reading, Jesus is telling his disciples to hold fast to every iota of the deposit of faith and the laws that have been passed down to them. Jesus even tells them, “...whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do so will be called least in the Kingdom of heaven. But whoever obeys and teaches these commandments will be called greatest in the Kingdom of heaven.”

I find these two passages helpful today because, even though life has changed dramatically for all of us recently due to the virus and our society's efforts to slow the spread of this disease, it is good to be reminded again about who we are. I think that is the challenge today's readings are offering us, to not forget who we are. Even though life has changed, this doesn't mean that we stop being a follower of Jesus. Quite the opposite. In fact, the saint for the day is St. Cyril of Jerusalem. You might want to read about him at some point today. However, if you wanted to summarize his life, he was about reminding the Christians of his day about who they were and who God called them to be.

My friends, in these rapidly changing times, I personally find it medicinal to remember that the Word of God does not change. The world does but not the Word of God. This is why it not a bad idea to reflect on the Word of God each day. The Word of God reminds us that God will continue to love us in good times and in bad, forever and without end, no matter what. I also believe difficult times like these can help teach us to love God even more in return and encourage us to find ways to share that love with the people around us. And maybe that is what we need to do today, to find that one thing we can do to share the love of God with someone in our life who needs it. Maybe that is what the world needs more today, simple act of kindness from disciples who remember who they are. In good times and in bad we are followers of Jesus who remains the way, the truth and the life. God bless you this day and peace be with you.