

Getting Ready for Sunday!

Sunday, 10 March 2024



The Fourth Sunday of Lent

The Lenten Journey

As we journey through Lent towards Easter we are challenged to see how we can become more like Jesus by making changes in our lives.

We first of all need to look at our lives with clear and fresh eyes so that we can admit what needs changing in our lives.

We need to be very honest with ourselves as we choose the change we most need to make! Giving up sweets is good for our health and will power, but instead it may be more important to first give up

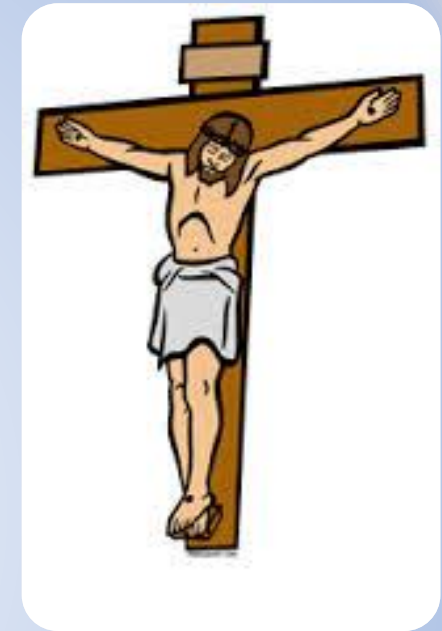
- intimidating others....
- talking behind peoples backs....
- being lazy.....
- not using our gifts and talents well.....
- not sharing with others.....
- bitterness...
- jealousy....

John 3:14-21



The Son of Man is Lifted Up

And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.



Jesus offered Himself for love of you!

What sacrifice are you willing to make for the sake of love?

‘For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

God wants the best for us!



What are you doing to make sure that the best will happen?

‘Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

Those who believe in him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God.



God offers us many gifts that will bring us true hope, peace and joy!

Do you use the gifts that God has given you so that you may find that peace, hope and joy?

And this is the judgement, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil.



Do you choose light?

Do you choose to do and say what is right?

Or do you choose darkness?

Do you choose selfishness,
bitterness, anger,
resentment.....

For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God.'



During Lent, we try to be loving,
hopeful, joyful. We try to change!

Only GOD

can turn a MESS into a MESSAGE..

A TEST into a TESTIMONY..

A TRIAL into a TRIUMPH..

a VICTIM into a VICTORY!!



SEEING YOUR LIFE THROUGH THE LENS OF THE GOSPELS

John 3:14-21

1. Jesus speaks of himself being lifted up, a term that can mean a physical lifting, or also exaltation. By this play on words the evangelist explains to us that Jesus' gift of himself in the passion was a glorious revelation of love, despite all its injustice and brutality. Bring to mind occasions when the love shown by Jesus in his passion was a sacrament of God's love for you.
2. It would be very cushy for us if we could be a source of life to others without cost to ourselves. The true life-givers know that they need the generosity of being lifted up by giving their lives so that others may have life. Recall when you have had that generosity and give thanks for others who have been like that for you.
3. We receive life from God when our faith enables us to trust in God's love for us. We give life to one another when the love between us is trustworthy. Recall memories of that kind of trustworthy love. For whom have you been able to be a 'Jesus person' and give a love that another could trust? Who has shown that kind of love to you and been for you a sacrament of God's love?

Consider



How have you grown since this time last year?
What have you learnt since this time last year?

Who are the people that –

- give you second chances?
- always believe in you?

Praying to Jesus



Pray for the grace to see that greatness of God in your life.

Ask God to show you the way to go today.

