

Lenten Reflection

Friday, March 11, 2016

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The words taken from Wisdom are obviously a prophecy of the Passion that we commemorate in just a few days. But these same words are a description of the world in which we live. The anger and violence in our world must come from the words of hate, derision, backbiting and negativity that are so prevalent today. Do we walk in the “shoes” of the wicked? Do we degrade others because they are not like us and are different in how they act? Do we hope we can get others to retaliate to prove they are not who they say they are? Do we test them and test the God on whom they depend.

Does Christ’s death disprove His claims as suggested in the reading? What did He claim? I have come to do the Will of God. I come to cure those who need me. I have come as a total gift of life and Love. Look back at Wisdom 1:1 *“Love virtue (justice), you who are judges on earth, let honesty prompt your thinking about the Lord, seek him in simplicity of heart; since he is to be found by those who do not put him to the test.”*

The Gospel Verse takes us back to the temptations of Christ and to the manna given to those wandering in the desert for forty years. Their physical hunger was fed but they were given so much more by the Lord. In the New Testament we are fed through the bread of the Eucharist and so much more. We are fed by the Word, the Son of God.

Imagine what the world would be like if each of us stopped at least one word of gossip. Imagine if we made the effort to see others as the image of the God of the Universe. May we pray with the words of the Prayer after Communion. Grant, we pray, O Lord, that, as we pass from old to new, so, with former ways left behind, we may be renewed in holiness of mind.