

# Lenten Reflection

Friday, Third Week of Lent

March 24, 2017



By Sister Linda Hylla, CDP

*“You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength.*

The second is this:

*“You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” (Mk.12:28-34)*

In this gospel message, we are invited to trust God with our deepest desires, worries, fears, and future. Exactly, what does this trust look like in a behavioral context? Well, over the years I have pondered what it means to do God’s will. As a young woman, I was put to the test in 1996 when I found my cancer. I remember my moment of surrender. It was not of my own making. It was grace! I recall the conversation with God in my bedroom of St. Mary’s Convent in Madison. There was no blaming God or others for my diagnosis. It was a time of vulnerable questioning of God’s will for me. Thanking God for 35 years of being surrounded by beauty, love and friendship, I had accepted life on life’s terms. Whatever was to happen, I had experienced a peace. My doctor stated that it was my attitude and acceptance that saved my life. Learning to trust my body was a learning curve. I remember spending time with God prior to having an MRI. Instead of asking God to remove my cancer, I had asked God to remove my fear. I asked for the courage to confront, companion and accompany the lessons of trusting. During the time of recovery in my life, I returned to the artist within and there I found my love for God, others and myself. God’s will for me changed my life for the better. Turning my life over to God is an amazing experience. It is a daily practice of awareness, acceptance and action.

