

Lenten Reflection

Wednesday, March 16, 2016

By Sister Marilyn McMillin, CDP



After reading the Scriptures for today, we can readily think of our Sisters who recently "broke the surly bonds of earth"* to meet our God. As Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego withstood the test of fire for their faith, so our Sisters showed us courage by the way they lived and met Jesus in others. They continued to give God glory, even in times of trial.

In today's Gospel, Jesus tells us that to be truly free, we must be slaves of nothing. To be truly free we must accept His word and act on it. We are half way through the fifth week of Lent. How much better our world could be if we all freed ourselves from whatever might enslave us. Spring is so near. To truly enjoy this wonderful season, we need to clear out the dead wood, spruce up the outside, and hit the interior with all that is required to renew our minds, hearts, and souls. Let us be ready to celebrate the great feast of Easter by heartily praying for others, causes we espouse, and for those who get lost in the crowd. Let us enjoy the challenge to greet Jesus in others by our words, the welcome in our eyes, and our gift of time...especially the time that we don't think that we have.

Free us, Lord, especially from those thoughts, words, and deeds that keep us from serving you with vitality and zest. Enlighten us to realize how much we need to be free from all that keeps us from glorifying You. Help us to grow in love with Your word so that we may know it and live it through every breath that we take. May we be ready to embrace with hospitality those who disrupt our plans for the day. Give us eyes to see them as your Providence messengers, leading us to closer union with You. Grant wisdom to discern how to cope with the events of each day so that we glorify only You, Lord. Free us, Lord, from ourselves, so that we may one day enter Your kingdom where we will be joyfully surprised by the true comprehension of Your all encompassing love.

** High Flight. John Gillespie Magee, Jr., 1941*