



THIS WEEK AT HOME

Monday, February 22, 2016

Feast of the Chair of St. Peter the Apostle

Today's feast is not about a piece of furniture, but about the office of the pope, the shepherd who leads his flock on the right path. In the Gospel, Peter confesses that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God; Jesus chooses Peter to shepherd the Church. In what ways have you confessed that Jesus is the Son of God? Consider spending time reading 1 and 2 Peter during this week. *Today's Readings: 1 Peter 5:1-4; Psalm 23:1-3a, 4, 5, 6; Matthew 16:13-19.*

Tuesday, February 23, 2016

Be Humble

After reading the Gospel, the first thing that came to mind was "Practice what you preach." When we set aside our sinful ways and allow the peace of Christ to rule our hearts, we seek justice and we strive to live genuinely. The religion the Pharisees practiced was about being noticed and being important. Jesus teaches us to set aside our selfish ways and to serve as he served. Discuss this Gospel at dinner and see what insights arise. *Today's Readings: Isaiah 1:10, 16-20; Psalm 50:8-9, 16bc-17, 21 and 23; Matthew 23:1-12.*

Wednesday, February 24, 2016

Cup of Salvation

In today's Gospel, Jesus reveals his imminent Passion and Death. The crux of the story is centered on the sons of Zebedee (James and John). Jesus asks them if they can drink from the cup of his suffering and our salvation. They reply confidently. Every time we approach the Eucharistic table and drink from the cup of salvation, we say yes to suffering with Christ as well as living the joy of the Resurrection. Christ calls us to offer ourselves up in service to others. This week you might consider visiting the imprisoned or the homeless. *Today's Readings: Jeremiah 18:18-20; Psalm 31:5-6, 14, 15-16; Matthew 20:17-28.*

Thursday, February 25, 2016

What Path?

Today's passages challenge us to reflect on our actions and our relationship with Jesus. Are you like the rich man who ignored the needs of his neighbors or like the blessed person, mentioned in Jeremiah, who trusts in the Lord? When we place our trust in the Lord, grace consumes us and we work for justice. When we follow the counsel of the wicked, we choose to separate ourselves from God's love. The beauty in these stories is that they call us to repent and hope in the Lord. Let this Lenten season be one of transformation and saying yes to Christ. Consider art as part of your prayer. Compose a song, write a story, draw, or paint a picture that helps you engage in the Gospel account. *Today's Readings: Jeremiah 17:5-10; Psalm 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6; Luke 16:19-31.*

Friday, February 26, 2016

The Vineyard

Read the Gospel parable several times, but each time imagine yourself as a different character. How would you respond if you were the tenant? Who are the prophets among us who are calling us to loving and just relationships? When we respond to God's Word, we bear good fruit, but when we get caught up in our passions, we die. *Today's Readings: Genesis 37:3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a; Psalm 105:16-17, 18-19, 20-21; Matthew 21:33-43, 45-46.*

Saturday, February 27, 2016

Loving and Forgiving

The refrain of the psalm sums up one of the main messages from today's readings. We are reminded in the Gospel that God will always welcome us home, no matter how serious our sin. The story of the prodigal son portrays God's love and mercy, showing how God rejoices over his beloved when they return to his embrace. Consider how it has felt to be forgiven. Have you been willing to show mercy to others? *Today's Readings: Micah 7:14-15, 18-20; Psalm 103:1-2, 3-4, 9-10, 11-12; Luke 15:1-3, 11-32.*



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Keeping the Seasons
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