

Lenten Reflections

March 18, 2020



St Francis Receiving the Stigmata – El Greco – Public Domain

<https://art.thewalters.org/detail/6457/saint-francis-receiving-the-stigmata-2/>

It is a privilege to be able to share some reflections with you on Lent.

Jesus came to fulfill the law as our Messiah, the chosen one. This Lent He challenges us not to just read about our faith but to live it. He tells us we have a responsibility to live the commandments but also to lead others to believe in them. Leading them astray will have consequences and will be 'least' in the Kingdom of God.

Jesus came to accomplish and obey the Holy Scriptures and to bring true meaning to His words. Jesus emphasizes that in the scriptures He is the Messiah, and the law is fulfilled in His work for salvation.

This Lent let us help one another to see the true Jesus in us in the way we treat one another, the way we speak, act, and witness to the truth. Let us see this penitential time of Lent as an opportunity to see that we need our Lord's love and mercy.

I will be available for reconciliation on:

Mondays from 10:00 am-11:30 am followed by Mass at 11:30 am on the Lodi Campus.

Wednesday from 11:00 am-1:00 pm followed by Mass at 1:00 pm on the Rutherford Campus.

Please come and open your hearts to Jesus so that this Easter may be a real act of love for you and your family.

*Fr. John Nazzaro, SDB, Felician University
Campus Chaplain*

Wednesday of the Third Week of Lent
Lectionary: 239

Reading 1 [DT 4:1, 5-9](#)

Moses spoke to the people and said:
“Now, Israel, hear the statutes and decrees
which I am teaching you to observe,
that you may live, and may enter in and take possession of the land
which the LORD, the God of your fathers, is giving you.
Therefore, I teach you the statutes and decrees
as the LORD, my God, has commanded me,
that you may observe them in the land you are entering to occupy.
Observe them carefully,
for thus will you give evidence
of your wisdom and intelligence to the nations,
who will hear of all these statutes and say,
‘This great nation is truly a wise and intelligent people.’
For what great nation is there
that has gods so close to it as the LORD, our God, is to us
whenever we call upon him?
Or what great nation has statutes and decrees
that are as just as this whole law
which I am setting before you today?

“However, take care and be earnestly on your guard
not to forget the things which your own eyes have seen,
nor let them slip from your memory as long as you live,
but teach them to your children and to your children’s children.”

Responsorial Psalm [147:12-13, 15-16, 19-20](#)

R. (12a) **Praise the Lord, Jerusalem.**
Glorify the LORD, O Jerusalem;
praise your God, O Zion.
For he has strengthened the bars of your gates;
he has blessed your children within you.

R. **Praise the Lord, Jerusalem.**
He sends forth his command to the earth;
swiftly runs his word!
He spreads snow like wool;
frost he strews like ashes.

R. **Praise the Lord, Jerusalem.**
He has proclaimed his word to Jacob,
his statutes and his ordinances to Israel.
He has not done thus for any other nation;

his ordinances he has not made known to them.

R. **Praise the Lord, Jerusalem.**

Verse Before The Gospel [JN 6:63C, 68C](#)

Your words, Lord, are Spirit and life;
you have the words of everlasting life.

Gospel [MT 5:17-19](#)

Jesus said to his disciples:

“Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets.

I have come not to abolish but to fulfill.

Amen, I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away,

not the smallest letter or the smallest part of a letter

will pass from the law,

until all things have taken place.

Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments

and teaches others to do so

will be called least in the Kingdom of heaven.

But whoever obeys and teaches these commandments

will be called greatest in the Kingdom of heaven.”