

## Fr. Martin's Reflection – March 6, 2022

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

For many of us Lent is a personal journey, and ultimately it is, all faith journeys are personal, but they can't remain that way. We are social beings, some more than others, but still social. We learn from each other, gain strength from each other, our personalities are developed by interacting with each other. During COVID the one thing that affected most people was the sense of isolation. We need each other to help us feel a sense of purpose and value.

Our faith is no different. Faith needs the same interaction to grow and develop and to mature as our bodies and personalities do. We may not realize how isolated our faith has become. We may say, 'I pray every day,' or 'I watch mass on the TV,' or 'I go for walks by myself to talk to God.' All those things are good, but how others live or express their faith can enhance our faith experience. How they dealt with tragedy and where they experienced God in that tragedy can be a great benefit to one's faith. The coming together on a Sunday as a faith family, to be with people who share your faith, people who are praying with you and for you, this is faith in action, this is knowing that you are not alone. And God speaks best through God's people, flawed as we all are.

I appeal to you, on behalf of your faith sisters and brothers, come home this Lent. Turn off the TV, the laptop, the iPad, and come to Mass – sit with your brothers and sisters, your friends and hear God's word and feed of the Body of Christ. Christ has told us, "Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise them up at the last day. For my flesh is real food and my blood is real drink. Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me, and I in them." Jn 6:54-56. Maybe you are still afraid, that I respect and understand, but maybe we have become too comfortable on the couch or wonder if it's necessary. For us to truly partake in the celebration of the Eucharist we need to be there and listen to God's word, pray with our sisters and brothers and feed of Christ's Body in the Eucharist – Come home this Lent.

### **Soup and Scripture**

Our Soup and Scripture program is back, and the theme is: **Arise in Christ – Change Our Hearts**. Our first talk is being hosted by St. Katherine Drexel Parish and will be on **Wednesday, March 9 at 12 noon – Knights of Columbus Hall, 366 E. Broad St, Burlington, NJ 08016**. The remaining schedule for Lent is:

**March 16** – Holy Assumption Church, Roebling – 12pm (noon)

**March 23** – St Katherine Drexel – Knights of Columbus Hall – 12pm (noon)

**March 30** – St Mary School, Bordentown – 12pm (noon)

**April 6** – Corpus Christi Parish, Willingboro – 1pm

Wish you all a wonderful Lenten journey – may you allow Christ to get close to you and you to get close to Christ.

*Fr. Martin*