

March 10-11, 2018

Fourth Sunday of Lent - Laetare Sunday

Second Chronicles 36:14-23

Ephesians 2:4-10

John 3:14-21

Sometimes GRACE shouts and sometimes grace whispers; the subtlety of our vestment colors shading from purple to rose this weekend underscore the nuances of God encountered within Lent. Intentionally an opportunity to 'come up for air' from the 'heavy' devotionals and abstentions of the season, this weekend speaks of RESTORATION, of things lost being found, of glimmers of light amid the gray and darkness of sin, of our TRUE identity as daughters and sons of God emerging from the confusion of our lives. 'Whoever lives the truth comes to the light so that their works may be clearly seen as done in God.' As we pass the halfway mark of Lent, in what ways has the grace of God guided you to unexpected self-discovery? What have you seen more clearly, heard more directly, sensed more profoundly than in previous years? In what way is God calling you to himself? The CROSS starts to emerge as the key to our fulfillment: 'Just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert, so must the Son of Man be lifted up...SO THAT EVERYONE WHO BELIEVES IN HIM MAY HAVE ETERNAL LIFE.' What are the Crosses in your life from which you have fled? What are the Crosses that we refuse to accept or embrace? Today GRACE whispers the power of the Cross...on Good Friday it will shout its power. Through the GRACE of God, how have Crosses impacted your past, how are your Crosses influencing your present life and how do you sense that your Crosses will lead you into your future?

Thank you for coming and sharing our Santa Clara experience of Lent. Next weekend we will, at least after all the Masses, celebrate all things Irish with some special beverages suitable for the weekend...you won't want to miss it. A reminder that our Church (Hall) is OPEN 24/7, accessible at night and throughout the day via the Main Doors next to the arbor and succulent planters. As Lent continues, you may wish to avail of private time before the Blessed Sacrament in the Chapel or just quiet moments within our sacred space. Your generosity in using the Altar Flower envelopes (available at the entrances/exits) will allow our Easter celebrations to be bright and beautiful and as always, remember, you are loved.
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