

February 18, 2018

## FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

FOR THE HEARING IMPAIRED: Hearing aids for use are in the sacristy—please return them after Mass.

With joy & happiness we welcome all of you who have come to pray and worship with us. We hope you will find friendship and fellowship in our community and encouragement to face whatever may come in the week ahead. For our guests & visitors, we pray that your stay in Tahoe is wonderful, that you have a safe journey home – and return to us soon.

## TODAY'S READINGS

**First Reading** — God's covenant with Noah when he was delivered from the flood (Genesis 9:8-15).

**Psalm** — Your ways, O Lord, are love and truth to those who keep your covenant (Psalm 25).

**Second Reading** — The water of the flood prefigured baptism, which saves you now (1 Peter 3:18-22).

**Gospel** — This is the time of fulfillment. The kingdom of God is at hand (Mark 1:12-15).

## READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Lv 19:1-2, 11-18; Ps 19:8-10, 15; Mt 25:31-46

Tuesday: Is 55:10-11; Ps 34:4-7, 16-19; Mt 6:7-15

Wednesday: Jon 3:1-10; Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 18-19; Lk 11:29-32

Thursday: 1 Pt 5:1-4; Ps 23:1-3a, 4-6; Mt 16:13-19

Friday: Ez 18:21-28; Ps 130:1-8; Mt 5:20-26

Saturday: Dt 26:16-19; Ps 119:1-2, 4-5, 7-8; Mt 5:43-48

Sunday: Gn 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18; Ps 116:10, 15-19; Rom 8:31b-34; Mk 9:2-10

## MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS

**Saturday February 17** The Seven Holy Founders of the Servite Order

5:30 pm Darryl Torullo (dec) by Cheryl Oransky

**Sunday February 18**

8:00 am Joe Buffo (dec) by Knights of Columbus

10:00 am Sophie Boyle (dec) by Marie, Mary & Helen

12:00 pm St. Theresa parishioners

7:00 pm David Medina (dec) by Leticia

**Monday February 19**

8:00 am Patrick Moskal (dec) by Eidam family

**Tuesday February 20**

8:00 am Ma. Consuelo Santos Armana (dec) by Myra Fajilan

**Wednesday February 21 St. Peter Damian**

8:00 am Leonardo Pancho Sr. (dec) by Jose & Carmelita Pancho

12:00 pm Joan E. Grech (dec) by her family

**Thursday February 22 Chair of St. Peter the Apostle**

8:00 am Emma Louisa Sabado (dec) by Mila

**Friday February 23 St. Polycarp**

8:00 am St. Theresa volunteers & staff

12:00 pm Concordia Balong (healing) balong family

**Saturday February 24**

5:30 pm The Richards family (special int) by St. Theresa parish

## DONATE ONLINE

Now you can donate online! Look for the "Donate" button on our website [www.tahoecatholic.com](http://www.tahoecatholic.com)



**DEVOTIONS TO OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP**  
Wednesdays 10:30a.m. in the Church with the Rosary, Divine Mercy chaplet, and novena prayers to Our Lady of Perpetual Help

## STEWARDSHIP IN OUR PARISH

02/11

Regular Collection

4384.31

**NO Second collection this weekend**

## WEEK AT A GLANCE

Monday, February 19	8am; 4pm-5:30pm Bread & Broth meal
Tuesday, February 20	8am Mass; 4:30pm Children Faith Formation; 6:30pm RCIA
Wednesday, February 21	8am &12noon Masses; 7pm Bible Study in Spanish
Thursday, February 22	8am Mass; 7pm RCIA in Spanish
Friday, February 23	8am & 12noon Masses; 6pm Station of the Cross and Soup Dinner in Grace Hall; 7:00pm Station of the Cross in Spanish in Grace Hall
Saturday, February 24	11am Baptism; 4pm Confessions & 5:30pm Vigil Mass
Sunday, February 25	8am, 10am, 12 noon and 7pm (in Spanish) Masses



## FAITH FORMATION FOR PARISHIONERS!

Now every parishioner can experience hundreds of hours viewing, reading, and listening to the best Catholic content. Enjoy more than 300 episodes of beautiful and compelling video series, feature-length movies, motivating and spiritually-enriching eBooks, and over 40 hours of audio content. **Register your family account by going to [www.formed.org](http://www.formed.org) > and use our parish account (case-sensitive) QKK7X3. \*FORMED APP NOW AVAILABLE!**

## PRAYER REQUESTS

## FOR PARISHIONERS ON ACTIVE MILITARY DUTY

Phillip Gaston | Corbett Martin | Zachary Martin | Erik Townsend

## FOR THOSE WHO ARE ILL

Concordia Balong | Bill Barboni | Romie Enriquez | Steve Frick | Ophelia Kirvida | Kel Lohmeier | Matthew Morisky | Simon McQuarrie | Byron Melrose | Jamie O'Malley | Cecilia Ramirez | Tony Russo

## PRAYER REQUESTS

If you would like to add to the prayer list, please send an email with your loved one's name along with your name and phone number to [tahoecatholicbulletin@gmail.com](mailto:tahoecatholicbulletin@gmail.com).



## BAPTISMAL PREPARATION CLASSES

Call or visit the Religious Education Office  
530.544.4788 Find the **2017 SCHEDULE:**  
<http://www.tahoecatholic.com/baptisms>



## PREGNANT ? NEED HELP?

We offer practical help to any women with a crisis pregnancy. We have a special concern for you and your unborn child. For any help with a troubled pregnancy, 544-3533.



## KNIGHT'S CORNER

*By being yourself, you put something wonderful in the world that was not there before.*\*Edwin Elliot  
Welcome to our new members: Patrick, Chris, Andrew & transfer member Jose

ST. PATRICK'S CORNED BEEF DINNER—March 17th

KNIGHT'S LENTEN SOUP SUPPER AFTER STATIONS—March 2nd

MONTHLY MEETING—March 14th with Dinner @6pm

PANCAKE BREAKFAST—March 4 after the 8AM & 10AM Masses

### Become a better version of yourself. Become a knight!

George Westinghouse (530)-721-1753 will be happy to help you learn more about the Knights of Columbus

## GIVING AND RECEIVING CONSOLATION

Consolation is a beautiful word. It means “to be” (con-) “with the lonely one” (solus). To offer consolation is one of the most important ways to care. Life is so full of pain, sadness, and loneliness that we often wonder what we can do to alleviate the immense suffering we see. We can and must offer consolation. We can and must console the mother who lost her child, the young person with AIDS, the family whose house burned down, the soldier who was wounded, the teenager who contemplates suicide, the old man who wonders why he should stay alive.

To console does not mean to take away the pain but rather to be there and say, “You are not alone, I am with you. Together we can carry the burden. Don’t be afraid. I am here.” That is consolation. We all need to give it as well as to receive it. | <http://henrinouwen.org/meditation/giving-and-receiving-consolation/>

## DYING WELL

We will all die one day. That is one of the few things we can be sure of. But will we die well? That is less certain. Dying well means dying for others, making our lives fruitful for those we leave behind. The big question, therefore, is not “What can I still do in the years I have left to live?” but “How can I prepare myself for my death so that my life can continue to bear fruit in the generations that will follow me?”

Jesus died well because through dying he sent his Spirit of Love to his friends, who with that Holy Spirit could live better lives. Can we also send the Spirit of Love to our friends when we leave them? Or are we too worried about what we can still do? Dying can become our greatest gift if we prepare ourselves to die well.

<http://henrinouwen.org/meditation/dying-well/>

## WORDS THAT CREATE

Words, words, words. Our society is full of words: on billboards, on television screens, in newspapers and books. Words whispered, shouted, and sung. Words that move, dance, and change in size and color. Words that say, “Taste me, smell me, eat me, drink me, sleep with me,” but most of all, “buy me.” With so many words around us, we quickly say: “Well, they’re just words.” Thus, words have lost much of their power.

Still, the word has the power to create. When God speaks, God creates. When God says, “Let there be light” (Genesis 1:3), light is. God speaks light. For God, speaking and creating are the same. It is this creative power of the word we need to reclaim. What we say is very important. When we say, “I love you,” and say it from the heart, we can give another person new life, new hope, new courage. When we say, “I hate you,” we can destroy another person. Let’s watch our words. <http://henrinouwen.org/meditation/words-that-create/>

## WORDS THAT FEED US

When we talk to one another, we often talk about what happened, what we are doing, or what we plan to do. Often we say, “What’s up?” and we encourage one another to share the details of our daily lives. But often we want to hear something else. We want to hear, “I’ve been thinking of you today,” or “I missed you,” or “I wish you were here,” or “I really love you.” It is not always easy to say these words, but such words can deepen our bonds with one another.

Telling someone “I love you” in whatever way is always delivering good news. Nobody will respond by saying, “Well, I knew that already, you don’t have to say it again”! Words of love and affirmation are like bread. We need them each day, over and over. They keep us alive inside. <http://henrinouwen.org/meditation/words-feed-us/>

## CELEBRATING BEING ALIVE

Birthdays are so important. On our birthdays we celebrate being alive. On our birthdays people can say to us, “Thank you for being!” Birthday presents are signs of our families’ and friends’ joy that we are part of their lives. Little children often look forward to their birthdays for months. Their birthdays are their big days, when they are the center of attention and all their friends come to celebrate. We should never forget our birthdays or the birthdays of those who are close to us. Birthdays keep us childlike. They remind us that what is important is not what we do or accomplish, not what we have or who we know, but that we are, here and now. On birthdays let us be grateful for the gift of life. <http://henrinouwen.org/meditation/celebrating-being-alive/>

## GOD'S POWER

We are not in our power, but in the power of God.

—St. Perpetua

## REFLECTIONS

### INTENTIONS OF THE HOLY FATHER

<https://www.popesprayer.net/wp-content/uploads/2016/01/English-2018-def-temi-3.pdf>

February 2018 | Say "No" to Corruption

That those who have material, political or spiritual power may resist any lure of corruption.

### METANOIA

"Reform your lives and believe in the gospel!" —Mark 1:15

Jesus began His public ministry proclaiming a direct command and challenge to everyone He saw. He proclaimed the need to repent and reform. The word for repent in this Gospel passage text is the Greek word metanoia. This word does not simply mean to be sorry for our sins, as appropriate as this is. The word means literally to turn around and go in the opposite direction. This repentance means to make a 180-degree turn in our lives if the direction in which we are traveling leads us away from God. This Lent, God's Word tells us: "Seek the Lord while He may be found" (Is 55:6) and "Turn now ten times the more to seek Him" (Bar 4:28).

The second thing Jesus commands besides repenting is to believe in the gospel (Mk 1:15). It is possible to change our direction, but not continue walking along the way of the Lord. If so, we are like the man who swept the trash out of his life, but never let himself be filled with God's grace (see Lk 11:24-26). Since he didn't fill his heart with the Holy Spirit, the things of the world, the flesh, and the devil filled the void in his life, and the final state of the man was worse than the first (2 Pt 2:20-21).

We must both repent and believe. We must turn around, walk in the path of righteousness, keep walking, and fill our minds and hearts with the Gospel (Ps 25:4-5, 8-9).

**Prayer:** Jesus, I know you thirst (Jn 19:28) for repentance, both my own and that of everyone I know. May I devote my life to leading people to Your loving, forgiving mercy.

**Promise:** "The reason why Christ died for sins once for all, the just Man for the sake of the unjust, was that He might lead you to God." —1 Pt 3:18

**Praise:** Glory to God! Jesus has risen and will raise us from the dead. Praise Jesus forever!

<http://www.presentationministries.com/obob/obob.asp?lang=en&d=2/18/2018>

### DRESSED IN GENTLENESS

Once in a while we meet a gentle person. Gentleness is a virtue hard to find in a society that admires toughness and roughness. We are encouraged to get things done and to get them done fast, even when people get hurt in the process. Success, accomplishment, and productivity count. But the cost is high. There is no place for gentleness in such a milieu.

Gentle is the one who does "not break the crushed reed, or snuff the faltering wick" (Matthew 12:20). Gentle is the one who is attentive to the strengths and weaknesses of the other and enjoys being together more than accomplishing something. A gentle person treads lightly, listens carefully, looks tenderly, and touches with reverence. A gentle person knows that true growth requires nurture, not force. Let's dress ourselves with gentleness. In our tough and often unbending world our gentleness can be a vivid reminder of the presence of God among us. <http://henrinouwen.org/meditation/dressed-in-gentleness/>

### ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL

Thank you to those who have already made a one-time or an ongoing donation to the 2018 Annual Catholic Appeal. Your gift will make a difference in someone's life. If you have not yet made a donation, it's not too late! Envelopes are still available in the church or in the parish office. Don't forget... 25% of what you give is returned to our parish to assist people in our community who need help.

### INFLUENZA, SUSPENSION OF CUP & OTHER PRECAUTIONS

The California Department of Public Health (CDPH) has indicated that the incidence of flu and flu-like illnesses has reached a level requiring that we take action to mitigate the possibility of infection at Mass. In order to protect the health and well-being of everyone, Bishop Soto has issued the following directives:

- ◆ The use of Communion cup is suspended temporarily.
- ◆ Receive the Body of Christ in the hand (although receiving on the tongue is permitted).
- ◆ Do not shake hands. Offer the Sign of peace to those around you with a simple nod, saying "peace be with you."
- ◆ Do not hold hands during the Our Father.
- ◆ Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion are to cleanse their hands with an alcohol-based antiseptic before and after administering Holy Communion. This also applies to those who take Communion to the Home-bound.
- ◆ Remember that the obligation to attend Sunday Mass does not apply to those who are ill, especially those who suffer from flu-like symptoms. Thank you for your patience and understanding during this time.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### FEBRUARY



**FEBRUARY 19**  
**PRESIDENT'S DAY:**  
The Office is closed on  
Monday, February 19



**STATIONS OF THE CROSS**  
FRIDAYS during Lent at  
6PM



**LENTEN SOUP DINNER**  
Following the Stations of the  
Cross

**\*\* Please note the Stations of the Cross and Lenten Soup Dinner will be held at GRACE HALL for Friday, February 23. Thank you. \*\***

### BIBLE STUDY ON CONVERSION

Please sign up for a six-week (Tuesdays) Bible Study on Conversion starting on February 27 at 9am. To sign up, please contact Fr. Mauricio at (530) 544-3533 Ext. 102 or [mauricioh650@gmail.com](mailto:mauricioh650@gmail.com)

In this film and study program, Bishop Robert Barron illuminates six biblical stories of conversion, demonstrating how six ordinary people, just like you, were met by Jesus where they were and called to a better life through him.

The common theme in each story is the turning of all one's attention and energy toward an ever deeper, personal relationship with Jesus Christ.

In his characteristically energetic style, Bishop Barron explains how conversion is not so much a one time event, but a life-long process. "Jesus Christ calls us in thousands of different ways to follow Him, as we strive on the path for spiritual excellence," explains Bishop Barron.

### SIGN UP TODAY!

#### 2018 LENTEN DAILY REFLECTIONS FROM BISHOP BARRON

Spend your time with Christ in the Gospel this Lent alongside Bishop Barron and the Word on Fire community. The link is [www.lentreflections.com](http://www.lentreflections.com)

And/or

#### Join DYNAMIC CATHOLIC FOR BEST LENT EVER

Sign up for Best Lent Ever, a FREE, video-based email program featuring internationally acclaimed speaker and New York Times bestselling author Matthew Kelly.

Are you ready for your best Lent ever? The link is [dynamiccatholic.com/bestlentever](http://dynamiccatholic.com/bestlentever)

### MARCH

#### 24 HOURS FOR THE LORD

Confessions at Saint Theresa on March 10, 2018 | 9:00 am ~ 12:00 noon

Continuing Pope Francis' call during the Jubilee Year of Mercy, the Diocese of Sacramento invites all Catholics to celebrate 24 Hours for the Lord to experience the Lord's loving mercy in the sacrament of reconciliation. This year's Lenten celebration will be marked with 24 hours of continuous confession in each of the 12 deaneries from noon on March 9, 2018, to noon on March 10, 2018. In some deaneries, this will happen at one central location. In other deaneries, 24 hours of the sacrament of reconciliation will be offered by rotating to several different sites.



#### MARCH 11:

Daylight Savings time begins: Sets clocks forward 1 hour

## 18 DE FEBRERO DE 2018 | PRIMER DOMINGO DE CUARESMA

PARA PROBLEMAS DE ESCUCHA: hay audífonos disponibles en la sacristía. Favor de devolverlos después de Misa.

¡Bienvenidos a todos! Nos reunimos con Jesús. Cristo es quién nos invita al banquete celestial. Qué esta liturgia les traiga paz. Si están visitando nuestra iglesia por la primera vez, ¡ójala que se sienten como en familia, una parte de la familia mundial del Señor. Les damos la bienvenida cordialmente y celebramos y contemplamos el misterio de la Eucaristía y rezamos que su viaje a su casa será seguro y que regresen pronto.

### LECTURAS DE HOY

**Primera lectura** — Dios estableció una alianza con Noé y sus hijos y les prometió que nunca más habría un diluvio devastador (Génesis 9:8-15).

**Salmo** — Tus sendas, Señor, son misericordia y lealtad, para los que guardan tu alianza (Salmo 25 [24]).

**Segunda lectura** — Aquella agua representaba el bautismo que ahora nos salva (1 Pedro 3:18-22).

**Evangelio** — Despues de los cuarenta días en el desierto, Jesús viene a Galilea proclamando el Evangelio de Dios (Marcos 1:12-15).

### LECTURAS DE LA SEMANA

Lunes: Stgo 1:1-11; Sal 119 (118):67-68, 71-72, 75-76; Mc 8:11-13

Martes: Stgo 1:12-18; Sal 94 (93):12-13a, 14-15, 18-19; Mc 8:14-21

Miércoles: Jl 2:12-18; Sal 51 (50):3-6ab, 12-14, 17; 2 Cor 5:20-6:2; Mt 6:1-6, 16-18

Jueves: Dt 30:15-20; Sal 1:1-4, 6; Lc 9:22-25

Viernes: Is 58:1-9a; Sal 51 (50):3-6ab, 18-19; Mt 9:14-15

Sábado: Is 58:9b-14; Sal 86 (85):1-6; Lc 5:27-32

Domingo: Gn 9:8-15; Sal 25 (24):4-9; 1 Pe 3:18-22; Mc 1:12-15

### PERSONAS DE LA ALIANZA |

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La palabra que sobresale en las lecturas de hoy es la palabra "alianza". La fidelidad y la bondad de Dios nos sirven como ejemplo de cómo debemos vivir. En Génesis aparece el relato de Noé y de la alianza de Dios no sólo con las personas sino con la naturaleza. Las aguas purificadoras del diluvio nunca más descargarán su poder destructivo en toda la tierra otra vez. La señal, el recordatorio para Dios y la naturaleza, es el arco iris en el cielo.

El salmo nos recuerda esta compasión de Dios y le implora a Dios que se acuerde de nosotros, no por nuestra bondad, sino por la bondad de Dios y su fidelidad a la promesa. Dios nos muestra cómo ser buenos, no por decreto, sino dándonos el ejemplo.

### INTENCIÓNES PARA LAS MISAS

**17 de febrero | sábado | Los Siete Santos Fundadores de la Orden de los Siervos de María**

**5:30 pm** Darryl Torullo (dec) by Cheryl Oransky

**18 de febrero | domingo |**

**8:00 am** Joe Buffo (dec) by Knights of Columbus

**10:00 am** Sophie Boyle (dec) by Marie, Mary & Helen

**12:00 pm** St. Theresa parishioners

**7:00 pm** David Medina (dec) by Leticia

**19 de febrero | lunes |**

**8:00 am** Patrick Moskal (dec) by Eidam family

**20 de febrero | martes |**

**8:00 am** Ma. Consuelo Santos Armana (dec) by Myra Fajilan

**21 de febrero | miércoles | San Pedro Damián**

**8:00 am** Leonardo Pancho Sr. (dec) by Jose & Carmelita Pancho

**12:00 pm** Joan E. Grech (dec) by her family

**22 de febrero | jueves | La Catedral de San Pedro**

**8:00 am** Emma Louisa Sabado (dec) by Mila

**23 de febrero | viernes | San Policarpo**

**8:00 am** St. Theresa volunteers & staff

**12:00 pm** Concordia Balong (healing) balong family

**24 de febrero | sábado |**

**5:30 pm** The Richards family (special int) by St. Theresa parish

**ENTRENARSE |** Los que deseen ocupar la torre de la contemplación deben ante todo entrenarse en el campo de la acción. ————San Gregorio Magno, Papa

### ¡GRACIAS POR SU GENEROSIDAD!

02/04

Colecta Regular

4384.31

Segunda colecta—17/18 de febrero: no colecta

### PETICIONES POR ESTAS PERSONAS

#### POR LOS FELIGRESES—ACTIVOS CON EL SERVICIO MILITAR

Phillip Gaston | Corbett Martin | Zachary Martin | Erik Townsend

#### POR LOS QUE ESTÁN ENFERMOS

Concordia Balong | Bill Barboni | Romie Enriquez | Steve Frick | Ophelia Kirvida | Kel Lohmeier | Matthew Morisky | Simon McQuarrie | Byron Melrose | Jamie O'Malley | Cecilia Ramirez | Tony Russo

#### LISTA DE LOS ENFERMOS

Si desea conservar su ser querido en la lista, por favor, envíe un correo electrónico con el nombre de su ser querido, junto con su nombre y número de teléfono a [tahoecatholicbulletin@gmail.com](mailto:tahoecatholicbulletin@gmail.com)



### DEVOCIÓN A NUESTRA SEÑORA DEL PERPETUO SOCORRO

Cada miércoles a las horas de 10:30 am con la "coronilla de la Divina Misericordia". Rosario y oraciones special a Peretuo Socorro.

### Primer Domingo de Cuaresma

#### 18 de febrero de 2018

Descúbrelos, Señor,  
tus caminos, guíanos  
con la verdad de tu  
doctrina.

— Salmo 25 (24):4



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## LLAMADO CATÓLICO ANNUAL

Gracias a todos los que ya han dado su donativo y hecho su compromiso mensual al Llamado Católico Anual 2018. Su donativo hace la diferencia en la vida de alguien. Pero si aún no los has hecho, no es demasiado tarde. Aún hay sobres disponibles en la iglesia y en la oficina parroquial. No olviden... 25% de tu donativo, regresa a la parroquia para ayudar a la gente necesitada de nuestra comunidad.



## VÍA CRUCIS

Los viernes de cuaresma el Vía Crucis a las **7pm**. Pueden llegar temprano para ser parte de la cena de Sopa que se estará ofreciendo después del Vía Crucis en inglés y antes del Vía Crucis en español.

## 24 HORAS PARA EL SEÑOR |

### Confesiones:

**De 9am a 12mediodia el sábado 10 de marzo**

Siguiendo con la invitación del Santo Padre, el Papa Francisco, durante el año Jubilar de la Misericordia, la Diócesis de Sacramento nos invita a celebrar 24 Horas para el Señor. El Sacramento de la Confesión se ofrecerá en varias parroquias a lo largo de nuestra diócesis por 24 horas ininterrumpidas empezando a las 12 del mediodía del viernes 9 de marzo y terminando al mediodía del sábado 10 de marzo de 2018. Nuestra parroquia, Santa Teresa, estará ofreciendo confesiones de 9am a 12mediodia el 10 sábado de marzo.

## TRADICIONES DE NUESTRA FE

La Cuaresma tiene sus raíces en la preparación para el Bautismo de adultos y en el arrepentimiento de pecadores públicos. Ambas se concentran en la conversión y en especial en los tres pilares de la misma. La Cuaresma nos da la oportunidad de encontrarnos de manera fuerte y vital con estos tres pilares: ayunar, ayudar y orar. Éstas son las prácticas cuaresmales que la Iglesia ha ido proclamando y practicando desde tiempos antiguos. Son prácticas que los cristianos deberíamos emplear todos los días de nuestra vida, pero con mayor fervor durante la Cuaresma para poder celebrar dignamente las fiestas de la Pasión, Muerte y Resurrección de nuestro Señor Jesucristo.

La conversión es un proceso por el cual regresamos a participar de la vida divina que recibimos en el Bautismo. Dios Padre mandó a su Hijo para salvarnos. He allí el por qué, el ayuno, el altruismo y la oración es colaborar con Dios. Dios mismo colabora con nosotros derramando su Espíritu en nuestros corazones. Con el poder del Espíritu Santo podemos practicar el ayunar, ayudar y orar de manera vital.

—Fray Gilberto Cavazos-Glz, OFM, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.

## METANOIA

"¡Conviértanse y crean en la Buena Nueva!" (Marcos 1:15).

Jesús comenzó Su ministerio público proclamando un mandamiento directo y un desafío a todos los que vio. Proclamó la necesidad de arrepentirse y convertirse. La palabra arrepentirse en este texto del pasaje del Evangelio es la palabra griega metanoia. Esta palabra no significa simplemente lamentar nuestros pecados, según sea apropiado. La palabra significa literalmente dar la vuelta e ir en la dirección opuesta. Este arrepentimiento significa hacer un giro de 180 grados en nuestras vidas si la dirección en la que viajamos nos alejaba de Dios. Esta Cuaresma, la Palabra de Dios nos dice: "Busquen al Señor mientras se deja encontrar" (Is 55:6) y "Búsquenlo con un empeño diez veces mayor" (Bar 4:28).

La segunda cosa que Jesús manda, además de arrepentirse, es creer en el evangelio (Mc 1:15). Es posible cambiar nuestra dirección, pero no seguir caminando por el camino del Señor. Si es así, somos como el hombre que sacó la basura de su vida, pero nunca se dejó llenar de la gracia de Dios (véase Lc 11:24-26). Como no llenó su corazón con el Espíritu Santo, las cosas del mundo, la carne y el diablo llenaron el vacío de su vida, y el estado final del hombre fue peor que el primero (2 Pe 2:20-21). Debemos arrepentirnos y creer. Debemos dar la vuelta, caminar en el sendero de la rectitud, seguir caminando, y llenar nuestras mentes y corazones con el Evangelio (Sal 25:4-5, 8-9).

**Oración:** *Jesús, sé que tienes sed (Jn 19:28) por el arrepentimiento, tanto el mío como el de todos los que conozco. Que pueda dedicar mi vida a guiar a la gente a Tu misericordia amorosa y perdonadora.*

**Promesa:** *""Cristo murió una vez por nuestros pecados – siendo justo padeció por la injusticia– para llevarnos a Dios" (1 Pe 3:18).*

**Alabanza:** *¡Gloria a Dios! Jesús ha resucitado y nos resucitará de entre los muertos. ¡Alabado sea Jesús para siempre!*

<http://www.presentationministries.com/obob/obob.asp?lang=es&d=2/18/2018>

