

Second Sunday of Lent A - Listen to Him, together we can reform the world with His Word
March 8, 2020

“This is my Beloved Son, Listen to Him!” The voice on the Mountain of the Transfiguration, the voice of God the Father was not speaking just to Jesus who had radiated His Divinity, nor was speaking to Moses, who had come to discuss the Word of God in the Law, nor to Elijah who had come to discuss the Word of God in the Prophets. **The voice was directed to the disciples Peter, James and John, and to each of us.** Those on that mountain had been discussing the Plan with the **Word of God became Flesh lived among us** (John 1:14), God’s plan for the salvation of humankind, the return of humankind to God. **Jesus would offer His Flesh on the Cross to begin the Plan. The disciples who listen to Him will continue the Plan to reform the world until God’s will is complete.** We will continue the Plan, at least if we are willing to embrace a life worth living. We have been called to be Christians, to follow Christ in every aspect of our lives, until our part in the Plan is complete.

Perhaps, God has called you to the **sacrament of marriage**. Do not just love your husband, your wife the way every other man or woman in the world loves her husband or his wife. Love your husband; love your wife the way that Jesus loves us, on the Cross, at the Resurrection. **Love with sacrificial love. Love with life giving love.** Put your spouse first, and **let the rest of the world experience Christ in your love.** You are called to be part of the Plan. Maybe now you have been called to be **parents**. Do not just take care of your children. You and your spouse made your children, or perhaps their biological parents who gave them to you through an agency. However, **children are created by God to bring a new reflection of His Love to the World. Teach them to make God’s love their centre, their reason for being. Do this by the way you live your lives, as well as by the way you pray. Challenge your children to embrace a life worth living.** There are several young couples in the parish who join the Teams of Our Lady (TOOL). The team is to enrich and help couples live out a married spirituality and to discover the full richness of the sacrament of marriage. It provides support and encouragement to the team couples in their spiritual journey and daily lives, inspire one another through their living examples of faith, and share with one another their struggles and successes on their way to holiness. **And so by the Light on the Mountain, the TOOL couples show the world how Christian Family Love can transform a house into a home, into a little Church.**

Perhaps you are not called to marriage, but live as a **single man or woman embracing a career**. Do not just go to work to make money. There are people there in that office, on that job site, in that hospital room, law firm, wherever, who are longing for God, even if they do not know why their lives are so desperate, so meaningless. Do not just go to work. **Bring Christ to work. Work as a Christian. Treat others with the kindness that was the real magnet that draw others to Jesus.** Let others see that you live the values you profess rather than just wasting your time for the sake of pride, prestige, power or making money.

Young people. You were created to be part of God’s Plan too. God has a role for you in His Plan for humankind. Listen to Jesus, listen to His Word. So, you are all upset, tied up in a knot, because your girlfriend or boyfriend dumped you. Or you are all upset because you did not make the team, or enough grade points to go to your dream college. God, obviously, has other things in store. **You were created to lead others in the quest for meaning, in the quest for Christ.** Yes, you are hurt because something that happened to you. But don’t let that hurt dissuade you from your whole purpose for being, to transform others.

You are now entitled to **Senior** discounts. Your careers are over. Even your grandchildren have grown up and some are in college. Perhaps age and sickness have reduced what you can physically do. Perhaps you are tempted to say to yourself, *"I've done my best to complete what God wants from me in life. I've done my part. I can retire now."* No, your life is not over until it is over. Maybe there is that one person you are going to visit, to socialize, to cheer up this week who will finally embrace Christ through your listening, sharing, loving, and caring. **Maybe there is one thing you say today that will convince someone to give in to Grace, to change his or her life, to turn to God. The race is not over until we cross the finish line of life.**

During Lent, let us remind ourselves of the message on that mountain, the Mountain of the Transfiguration: **"This is my Beloved Son, Listen to Him."** Remember the message. Pope Francis once said, *"The Lord invites us to re-appropriate our Christian life in its entirety and to contribute, each according to his own vocation, to the construction of a world that responds more and more to God's plan"* So as we leave the mountain this Sunday with the other disciples, each one of us has a role set aside to transform the world in His Plan: **"Thy Kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in Heaven!"**