

Message From The Pastor

February 25, 2021

Why Lie?

“Things come apart so easily when they have been held together with lies,” stated Dorothy Allison, a famous American writer.

Here is a true story- an encounter I had with someone who lied “through her teeth,” then embarrassingly got caught.

While I was pastor at one of my former parish assignments, a woman came to the rectory door and asked if she may speak to me. The woman said she needed help. I let her inside, then we sat in the rectory office.

Immediately, the narrative began. The short version is the following. “Her husband was a patient in a hospital in Las Vegas, sick and dying, however, she could not afford to travel there, unless money was given to her by the church.” Indeed, I thought to myself, “That was quite a creative story!” I paused a second or two after she was done, and said to myself, “I want to help her. Although, not in the way she expects.”

So, I said to her, “I truly want help you. May I ask in which hospital is he a patient? She was ready for that question!! “Father, he is in the University Medical Center.” I took out my cell phone and searched for the phone number of the hospital. She asked, “What are you doing?” I shared, I am looking for the phone number of the hospital.” He cannot speak to you he is dying,” she protested.” I replied, “You shared he is dying, but I am sure the employee at Patient Information,” is alive. She yelled, “What is the matter don’t you believe me!” As I dialed “Patient Information,” she suddenly arose from her seat, and began to walk out. However, before she did, I advised “If you simply told me the truth you needed financial help, I most likely would have given it to you. Why did you have to lie to me?”

I hope I gave her what she truly needed. Lying is cruelly making things up to help oneself at the expense of everyone else.” It is so unchristian. And, as Ms. Allison’s quote indicates, a lie cannot be sustained when confronted with the power of truth.

Don't lie. Live in the truth always.

Peace

Fr. Marc