



ST. PIUS X PARISH

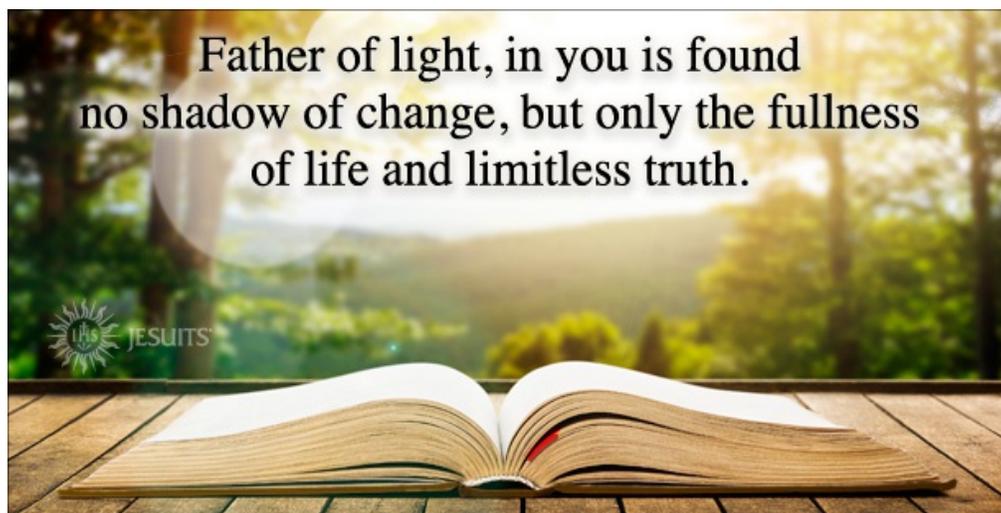
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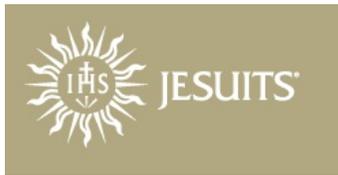


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OUR PIUS UPDATE February 23, 2021





Daily Inspiration from JesuitPrayer.org

February 22, 2021

NEW NAME FOR A NEW MISSION

Throughout Scripture, a new name signals a new mission. Today, Simon becomes Peter, whose mission is to be the rock - the foundation - of the Church. And through his response to Jesus' question, "*who do you say that I am?*" Peter *names* Jesus. His faith inspires him to proclaim that Jesus is "*the Messiah, the Son of the living God.*" Peter has no evidence to prove that Jesus is a messiah, but through his faith, he knows that Jesus is *the* Messiah. Peter's faith is a gift from God, and therefore, it is upon Peter's faith, not upon the person of Peter, that the Church is built. Faith is our foundation. Through the lives and love of others such as our parents, grandparents, or teachers, our faith continues to grow.

REFLECTION

- *Who do you say Jesus is?*
- *Name the people in your life who have been a foundation for your faith and helped shape your understanding of who Jesus is.*
- *Express your gratitude to God for those people and for His gift of faith.*

SOURCE:

Jackie Schulte is the Dean of Faculty Formation and a history teacher at Creighton Preparatory School in Omaha, Nebraska.

We Bring Your Love

Loving God,

Help us to focus on what we have not on what is removed or changed.

Strengthen us when we feel discouraged or overwhelmed.

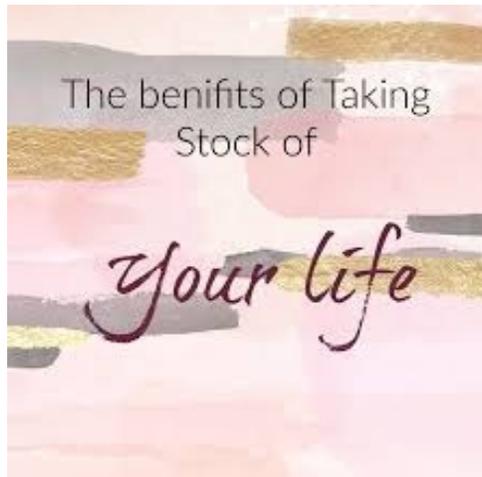
Embrace us so that us we know your loving presence within us and among us.

Walk with us as we bring your love, and carry your light, into our world.

Amen.

SOURCE: *Sandra Lucas, MDiv., BCC*

TAKING STOCK OF OUR LIVES



Once upon a time, an ancient story tells us, the master had a visitor who came to inquire about Zen. But instead of listening, the visitor kept talking about his own concerns and giving his own thoughts. After a while, the master served tea. He poured tea into his visitor's cup until it was full and then he kept on pouring.

Finally, the visitor could not bear it any longer,

"Don't you see that my cup is full?" he said.

"It's not possible to get anymore in."

"Just so," the master said, stopping at last.

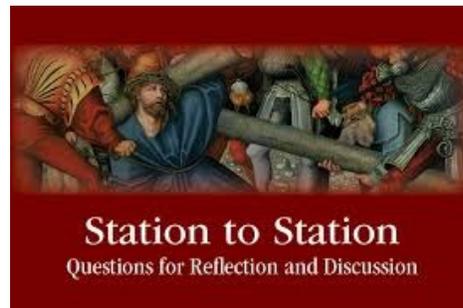
"And like this cup, you are filled with your own ideas. How can you expect me to give you Zen unless you first empty your cup?"

Lent is the process of emptying our cups. Lent is a time for trimming the soul and scraping the sludge off a life turned slipshod. Lent is about taking stock of time, even religious time. Lent is about exercising the control that enables us to say no to ourselves so that when life turns hard of its own accord, we have the spiritual stamina to say yes to its twists and turns with faith and with hope.

Lent is the time to make new efforts to be what we say we want to be. We applaud the concept in most things. We know, for instance, that even people who were married years ago have to keep working at the marriage consciously and intently every year thereafter, or the marriage will fail no matter how established it seems. We know that people who own businesses take inventories and evaluations every year or the business fails. We too often fail to realize, however, that people who say that they want to find God in life have to work every day to bring that Presence into focus, or the Presence will elude them no matter how present it is in theory.

SOURCE: *The Rule of Benedict: A Spirituality for the 21st Century* (Crossroad) by *Joan Chittister*

QUESTIONS IN FRONT OF THE CROSS



At the end, I turn to Jesus Christ, hanging on his cross, and I talk with him. I ask how can it be that the Lord and Creator should have come from the infinite reaches of eternity to this death here on earth, so that he could die for our sins.

And then I reflect on myself, and ask -

What have I done for Christ?

What am I doing for Christ?

What ought I do for Christ?

And I talk with Jesus like a friend, I end with the ***Our Father***.

SOURCE: The Spiritual Exercises 53

What's my work for Christ - past, present, and future? There are the questions at the center of the ***Spiritual Exercises***.

