



St. Luke the Evangelist Catholic Community

Reflections with Fr. Mark

May 25, 2020



Dear Parishioners,

Today we celebrate Memorial Day in our country. We remember the sacrifices of the many men and women who have given the ultimate sacrifice to protect and defend the freedoms we enjoy; and, far too often, take for granted. I invite you to spend some time in prayer for each of these tender souls who gave their own lives so that we might enjoy all the rights and freedoms we have been given by God and our citizenship in the United States of America.

In the Church today, we celebrate the Memorial of Pope Gregory VII who lived during the 11th Century. Pope Gregory was known for his defense of the separation of Church and State since in his era the Church was subject to the civil state and abuses of power were rampant. He strengthened the unity of the Church under the centrality of the papacy as he worked diligently to extricate control from external rulers and authorities. In honoring this day and this Pope in history we might also be thankful for the “religious freedom” we enjoy as one of the founding principles of our country.

Our Scriptures today remind us that, “In the world you will have trouble, but take courage. I have conquered the world.” In this current time of trouble may we take courage in the face of pandemic and be willing to sacrifice a bit for the sake of unity and unite ourselves with the God of all freedom and a country that beckons those across the globe to its foundational promise of hope. Freedom is NOT free; it was paid for by the sacrifice of many!

Happy Easter! He is Risen! Alleluia!

Fr. Mark

Watch Sunday Mass from St. Luke at Home: The recordings are available on our Parish website, www.stluketemplecity.org, and sent through our e-communications. The services will remain posted so you may view at your convenience.

Please visit our Parish Website for continued COVID-19 information related to parish activities and previous e-communications: <https://stluketemplecity.org/covid-19>