Wednesdays in Lent

3/10/2021

Good evening,

Tonight’s reflection is on ***Jusice*** and the role it plays in our lives as disciples of Jesus. As you enter this time of reflection and conversation, begin by centering yourselves on these verses:

I hate, I despise your festivals,

 and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies.

Even though you offer me your burnt offerings and grain offerings,

 I will not accept them;

and the offerings of well-being of your fatted animals

 I will not look upon.

Take away from me the noise of your songs;

 I will not listen to the melody of your harps.

But let justice roll down like waters,

 and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream (Amos 5:21-24).

With what shall I come before the Lord,

 and bow myself before God on high?

Shall I come before him with burnt offerings,

 with calves a year old?

Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams,

 with ten thousands of rivers of oil?

Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression,

 the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?”

He has told you, O mortal, what is good;

 and what does the Lord require of you

but to do justice, and to love kindness,

 and to walk humbly with your God (Micah 6:6-8)?

You shall appoint judges and officials throughout your tribes, in all your towns that the Lord your God is giving you, and they shall render just decisions for the people. You must not distort justice; you must not show partiality; and you must not accept bribes, for a bribe blinds the eyes of the wise and subverts the cause of those who are in the right. Justice, and only justice, you shall pursue, so that you may live and occupy the land that the Lord your God is giving you (Deuteronomy 16:18-20).

[Jesus said] “Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you tithe mint, dill, and cummin, and have neglected the weightier matters of the law: justice and mercy and faith. It is these you ought to have practiced without neglecting the others. You blind guides! You strain out a gnat but swallow a camel (Matthew 23:23-24)!

Here are some question to reflect on this evening

1. What is meant by the word “Justice.”
2. When we think of justice culturally, what do we usually think of?
3. How does the justice of God differ from our worldly understanding of justice?
4. How do we participate in the justice required by God?
5. In what ways can we promote a just society that reflects the justice of God?

Blessings these 40 days,

Pr. JonPaul