

4th Sunday Lent Year B 2024

Jn 3:14-21

Jesus said to Nicodemus: "The Son of Man must be lifted up as Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert, so that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him. Yes, God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not be lost but may have eternal life. For God sent his Son into the world not to condemn the world, but so that through him the world might be saved.

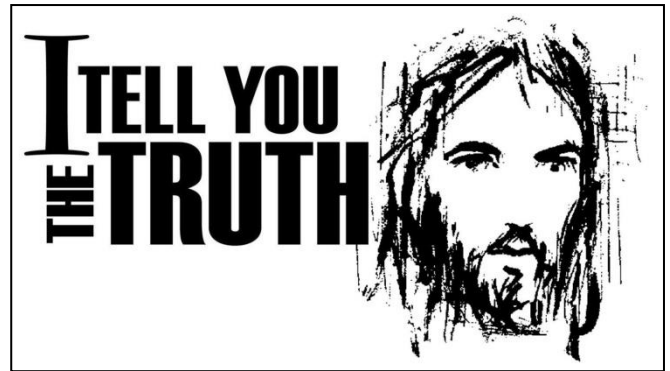


No one who believes in him will be condemned; but whoever refuses to believe is condemned already, because he

has refused to believe in the name of God's only Son.

On these grounds is sentence pronounced: that though the light has come into the world men have shown that they prefer darkness to the light because their deeds were evil.

And indeed, everybody who does wrong hates the light and avoids it, for fear his actions should be exposed; but the man who lives by the truth comes out into the light, so that it may be plainly seen that what he does, is done in God."

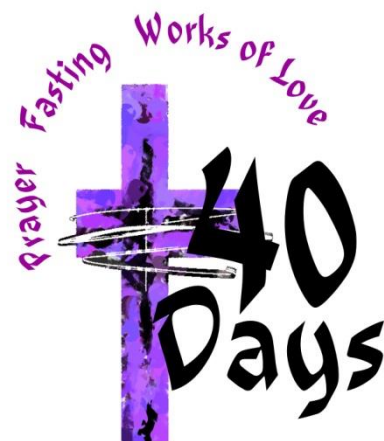


Reflection on the Gospel

It's dark, it's late, nobody is around, nobody except Nicodemus. He has heard and seen the remarkable things that Jesus is doing. Concerned that his friends might see him, yet unable to stay away Nicodemus comes; "How could anyone do what this Jesus does unless God has sent him", he says to himself.

How quickly the Gospel gets abandoned, how quickly God's teaching has been ridiculed, Where is Christ? Where are the Sacraments? Where are the commandments of God in my home? Do I, like Nicodemus, come secretly and silently to Church? Do I keep my beliefs hidden, or do I come half-heartedly, coming but with the same old criticisms and negativity of those who don't come at all?

What is the attraction of this Jesus for me? What keeps me coming? Perhaps, at least, by just coming my Faith might be strengthened and like Nicodemus Jesus' love for me and my desire to love him will help me and mine to be his loyal followers.



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