

REFLECTIONS 4th SUNDAY OF LENT YEAR B 2021.
LOVING THE WORLD.

John 13:16 *“God so loved the world that He gave His only Son so that everyone who believes in Him may not perish but may have eternal life.”*

This is one of the most common and popular verses. It is a verse which should be **recited, memorized, and meditated on**. We can get three important things from this verse especially in this period of Lent. **GOD’S LOVE, GOD’S SON, and OUR BELIEF**. This world which God loved so much is not ideal, **it is for real**. It is not a place where people live in **harmony, love, justice, and peace** with each other as intended originally in creation, yet God loved it so much.

This world, loved by God, has **crimes, hatred, dishonesty, wars, conflicts, pettiness, and lack of trust in one another**. God wanted to bring **Healing** to such a world. A world He originally created and saw that everything was good. He had to find ways to bring harmony. Hence, He **sent His only Son to restore order**. He sent his only Son as a remedy for humanity. He was NOT sent to **one Nation, tribe, color, language BUT TO ALL**. That EVERYONE who believes in Him may NOT PERISH.

In our first reading we see that the leaders, priests, and the people were going against the regulations and commandments despite the warnings from the prophets hence they were exiled and taken into captivity. After many years in captivity King Cyrus, the Persian king, brought restoration to the remnants.

Don’t we all need this Restoration in our time?

Don’t we need another Cyrus to lead us back to God?

How are we using the Cyrus we have?

Finally, he sent His son as the light of the world to restore the **whole creation on that tree of the CROSS**. He came as **LIGHT** to all nations.

He is inviting us this Sunday to be Light for one another. He is the

bridge between the healing hand of God and us because of our sins. The poison of sin has entered the world and we cannot expel it on our own. We need the person of Jesus Christ to ***cure and heal the world.*** We need to look up to that Cross where he is for healing like the Israelites looked at the snake. He is going to draw that venomous poison of sin and replace it with ***Grace.*** *We must go to the crucified Lord this Lent. We do not need to sympathize with Him on the cross rather we need to embrace and begin new life in Him.* The call for Lent is ***REPENTANCE***, stand for ***TRUTH, FORGIVENESS, CHANGING our lives, CASTING AWAY DARKNESS*** and ***EMBRACING the LIGHT.*** Be a light for someone this Lent remembering that ***GOD LOVED THIS WORLD SO MUCH.***