

FR.TK.REFLECTIONS FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT:-2024.

THE NICODEMUS DIARY:

The great Pharisee looked out of the window at the rooftop of Jerusalem, the city was asleep but the Pharisee was busy reflecting on the **words** Jesus had spoken "**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, John 3:16**". He wondered whether Jesus was this son being talked about and whether he himself NICODEMUS will have that eternal life, he certainly **believed in Jesus to an extent of visiting him at night under the cover of darkness and in secret** for Jesus was considered a dangerous revolutionary by the Pharisees. Nicodemus was a high ranking Pharisee. His next words in the scroll were disturbing to him whether Jesus was challenging him to make a move to him on a **broad day light** "**everyone who practices evil hates light, he doesn't come near it for fear of his deed being exposed**" Jn.3:20. Later we see him coming to light when he defended Jesus before other chief priests, he too purchased myrrh and aloes and helped Joseph of Arithmea wrap, Jesus body for burial.

What a wonderful guiding light for us today by Nicodemus diary and especially with this guiding common and popular verse (Jn.3:16) which should be always be **recited, memorized and meditated** due to its richness. There are three things in this verse. **Gods love, Gods son, and our belief.**

This world which God loved so much is not **ideal it is for real**. People don't live in **harmony, love, justice and peace. Wars, conflicts, crimes, hatred, dishonesty** with each other and the environment. These are fruits of **disobedience and lack of following the commandments and the covenant by the very human created in the image of God**. Last Sunday we saw people going against the stipulated regulation and Gods promise. Today's first reading (2chron.36:14-23) we see the summary of infidelities on the Israelites, led to untold disaster in Babylonian exile for many years until the God who loved the world so much used king Cyrus to bring restoration to the remnants.

At the appropriate time because of the love God had for this world, he send **his own son to fully restore the broken order and redeem the humanity and heal the world.**

He send his son as the **light of the world to clear the darkness which exists in the world.** We remain in darkness when we don't believe God so loved the world that he gave his only son. Let us come to that light with Nicodemus by professing our faith in Jesus Christ .we must make that light shines to all people through us by living authentic Christian life in deeds and actions.

He is inviting us this Sunday to be the light of one another and the world. He is the bridge between the healing hand of God for our sinful actions. The poison of sin had entered and is spreading in the world hence needs control. We cannot on ourselves we need that son of God whom he loved so much. we need him to **cure and heal** the world. We must **look at that tree, the cross** where he was nailed that we may be healed like the Israelites looked at that snake on their journey to the promised land and were cured. Jesus is going to draw all that poison and heal us through his **Grace and in the sacrament of reconciliation and Eucharist.**

This is the call of lent to **repentance, stand for the truth, forgive, give alms and change** our lives thus **casting away darkness and embracing light.** Thus is the only way to that son of God whom he gave us.

He is a remedy for all humanity regardless of, nationality, color, creed, **culture, creed, language political affiliations rather ALL PEOPLE. THAT EVERYONE WHO BELIEVE IN HIM WILL NOT PERISH BUT HAVE ETERNAL LIFE.**