

PASTOR'S COLUMN—FEBRUARY 8, 2016

Dear Parishioners:

There is a temptation that wells up in us sometimes to down-play God's importance in our lives. To go-it-alone, that is, without God is a temptation for us especially if we are not impressed with how our lives are going. Sometimes we shake our heads in frustration because life is so unpredictable. And we end up asking "Why?" And then maybe we ask SIRI on the smartphone for an answer to our "Why?" No answer she gives will satisfy our "Why?" because the "Why?" is a mystery.

Our faith in Christ encourages us to quiet down about trying to explain the "Why?" and patiently BE silent in God's faithful wisdom within us. An explanation will surface that proclaims to us that all is well in Christ! We may retort that this is impossible. How can all be well when we are frustrated about life? God's response to us is that frustration is our idea, but that in Christ the ever faithful savior, we can let go of the frustration and more peaceably face every moment of life. This is Holy Communion: trusting Jesus is saving love in every moment. And to live with this oneness in Christ is faith.

When the temptation arises in us to down-play God's importance in our lives, especially at times of frustration, it is our faith in Christ the Savior of the world who brings us peace. SIRI on the smartphone is not the answer to the mystery of daily life. Any head-shaking is to only be nods up-and-down that acknowledges our faithful "yes" to Jesus in our every moment.

With Faith in Christ,

Fr. Terry