

PASTOR'S COLUMN—MAY 25, 2015

Dear Parishioners:

St. John's Gospel points out that one way to describe sin is unbelief in Jesus. A lack of belief in our beloved savior imprisons us in our sins. The Holy Spirit stirs within us to let go of any unbelief we have about Jesus. What we need to admit is that we become slaves to our sin when we lack belief in Jesus' saving love.

Usually it takes a conversion experience to break us out of our sin enslavement. We need to get to the point of being sick of our sin "chains" and repent deeply and humbly of the root of our sin, namely, a lack of belief in Jesus. Weekly Eucharist with receiving Holy Communion can strengthen our belief in Jesus to the point of being more freed up as God's children. To be faithful members of the Body of Christ, which is confirmed through the Holy Spirit when we receive Holy Communion, is to be freed up from the prison of our sin.

Conversion is God's grace stirring within us to go ahead and believe in Jesus and observe that Christ's liberating love has ultimate power over sin and death. St. John's Gospel is wise in reminding us that the root of sin is unbelief in Jesus. God's grace of conversion in the Holy Spirit can do wonders for us being freed up in Christ as children of God.

In Christ's freedom,

Fr. Terry