

PASTOR'S COLUMN—JULY 6, 2015

Dear Parishioners:

We can sometimes get confused when reading the Old Testament because God calls the chosen people with Abraham as their Father in faith. Although the Jewish people are chosen by God to journey to the Promised Land of freedom, the New Testament reminds us that Jesus as Son of God made Man reveals that God Our Creator Father chooses all people in Christ the Savior of the world.

The Sacred Heart of Jesus is opened to all people's hearts through His death and resurrection. This is most important that we remember that only God sees into the depths of our hearts. We may try to figure our hearts out, but our hearts are filled with mystery because God resides there. And since God resides in all people's hearts, we need to let up on our judgment of ourselves and others. In particular, we are wise to look at the contradictions that are in our hearts and humbly admit them to Jesus in all their mystery. This will calm us down about harsh judgment towards our neighbors. Yes, our neighbors all have contradictions in their hearts but we patiently need to commend them to the Sacred Heart of Jesus and refrain from judgment.

Psalms 130 says it well: "Lord, if you were to mark our guilt, who could survive." "But with you is found forgiveness and for this we revere you". To revere God for God's forgiveness in Christ is to humbly admit that God's Saving Love in Christ is for all people. We are all chosen to be saved from sin and death in Christ, so let's back off from the judgments we throw around towards ourselves and others. Accountability without judgment is the daily spiritual discernment in Christ the Savior of the world.

In Christ's Saving Love for all,

Fr. Terry