

PASTOR'S COLUMN—AUGUST 18, 2014

Dear Parishioners:

There are people who try to keep the peace no matter what. These folks will “sweep” issues “under the rug” because they want to keep the peace. The paradox about Jesus’ peace is that on His Gospel Mission level, Jesus causes conflict with the truth about God’s Way of Love. Jesus’ death on the cross reveals that although there is conflict all around Jesus on Good Friday, in the depths of Jesus’ heart, he is at peace in commending His Spirit to His Father and forgiving the people before he dies.

The wisdom of Jesus’ death for us is to approach daily life by commending our daily lives over to God Our Father and let forgiveness be our final word at the end of each day. This Gospel approach is most helpful for us as we try to be faithful to God’s Way of Love. There will be times when we try to be truthful to ourselves and others, but when we see conflict starting to appear, we may succumb to the avoidance technique of “sweeping” issues “under the rug”. The cross for us involves persevering in the Gospel truth with peace persisting in our hearts because of our commending the conflict over to God Our Father. And no matter what transpires in the truth-sharing, we embrace forgiveness in Christ as the final word on any conflict.

Our faith in Jesus encourages us to have peace in our hearts no matter what Gospel conflict may be percolating in our daily lives. Let’s put the “sweep” issues “under the rug” approach in Jesus’ hands and trust that Jesus will provide peace for our hearts as we truth-share with ourselves and others in the wisdom of the Gospel.

Open to Christ’s Truth,

Fr. Terry