

PASTOR'S COLUMN—SEPTEMBER 8, 2014

Dear Parishioners:

Faith is utter mystery from God but Scripture gives us some insights about the gift of faith. Remembering that faith is gift from God keeps us humble about faith's origin. Scripture is God's revealing truth that cuts away at any falsities that's we hypocritically think are true. We can twist falsity into believing that falsity is truth when we abandon the insight of Scripture.

Any action by us towards our neighbors that puts a "wedge" between them and God is a "No, No" and is contrary to our faith call. In baptism we have a common vocation to bring people together in the one Body of Christ. The Scripture truth flows out of our depth of intimacy in Lover God within us. This is one way to describe the gift of faith: God's depth of intimacy within us. It is our truth-center and it prunes away any falsity that we hypocritically twist into believing is truth. Faith calls us to a single-hearted oneness with God's Love that guides us to be revealers of God's Love to our neighbors and not "wedgers" between God and our neighbors.

It takes patient, enduring faith to experience God's intimacy within us. But the fruit of truthful love for our neighbors is being faithful to the Scripture message. Although faith is mystery gift from God, a blessed insight about Scripture-based faith is that hypocrisy decreases in us and authentic truth about ourselves and our neighbors increases.

In Our Oneness of Faith,

Fr. Terry