

PASTOR'S COLUMN—OCTOBER 26, 2015

Dear Parishioners:

Do you have a quiet place to go to every day? Some place, maybe a room in your home or apartment where you can simply be quiet for several minutes. It is really important that we find quiet spaces in our daily lives so that our inner selves can be soothed in the balm of silence. Silence is restorative to our spiritual depths affirmed by Jesus frequently going off to a quiet place to BE with His Father in silence. There is no substitute for daily silence in our lives because God's wisdom and truth is resonating in our quiet depths. That is why listening prayer is so important in our faith journeys.

Our tech world likes instantaneous responses but silence proclaims non-verbally that sometimes our responses are to be patient, slow and quietly reflective rather than knee-jerk. Some may complain that this is not efficient but then again our faith journeys remind us that the most efficient thing we can do sometimes is nothing but silent listening to our all-faithful God. And it does help to have a daily haven for providing a quiet atmosphere.

Compassion flows out of the daily discipline of silence because God reminds us in the quiet that we need to continue to be more attentive to the needs of our neighbors, reaching out to them in Jesus' Love. This is how we put our Holy Communion with Jesus into flesh and blood action for it is more evident to us in our silent/quiet depths that God's Saving Love in Christ is for all people.

Finding our quiet space each day is how we balance a high tech world. Life is not instantaneous, for people are designed by God to slow down consistently with humility and grow in awareness of how to be truly human involves compassion flowing out of the depths of silence.

In Christ's Quieting Presence,

Fr. Terry