

PASTOR'S COLUMN—DECEMBER 14, 2015

Dear Parishioners:

We can be a compartmentalizing people based on busy schedules that accumulate in our waking hours. Because we get so full of activity, we force ourselves to compartmentalize as if we are in a department store in that we go from one activity (department) to another. This works fine to a point but problems set in if we forget that no matter what our schedule, we are to be vigilantly alert to treating people with kindness and compassion. Sometimes we can use our busyness as an excuse for being impatient with people including the way we talk to others. We may declare that we are so important in our many activities that how dare anybody get in the way of our rigorous schedules.

Jesus teaches us that treating people with kindness and compassion is to be built into our daily schedules, not for an hour or minutes here or there, but all the time. Living Holy Communion with Jesus implies that we live in oneness with Christ in our every moment. No schedule book is needed with being Jesus' disciples because Holy Communion with our Beloved Savior is our constant call. Discipleship is not based on convenience, but rather is based on our duty, our obligation to love one another all the time. This may impact our approach to our many daily activities such that we can be more patient throughout our busy days because every moment can be another discipleship opportunity to manifest patience with people especially when unexpected people-issues arise.

In Christ, we move away from compartmentalizing loving our neighbors. Going to a department store does not define how love is because love is all-encompassing in our every moment. Staying vigilant and alert to being kind and compassionate all the time can transform our busy schedules into living the timeless gift of God's Love in Christ as his disciples.

In God's Kindness and Compassion,

Fr. Terry