

Year A 7th Sunday Homily Outline

Jesus invites us beyond the minimalist rule-follower mentality to a real change of heart and transformation of our lives.

Daydream of heaven

1. The Gospel makes clear that Jesus isn't interested in us doing the minimum

YOU HAVE HEARD THAT IT WAS SAID ... BUT I SAY TO YOU...

In each of these YOU HAVE HEARD THAT IT WAS SAID – BUT I SAY TO YOU statements there is an invitation to go beyond a minimalist approach to the Christian life and to journey down to the heart of the matter. And invitation to go beyond superficially following the rules – to a real transformation of heart.

2. Desire for a real and complete transformation of the heart

- We want something better than just enough self-discipline, enough willpower or to be able to keep myself from getting filled with rage and anger.
- We want something deeper than just enough self-control to keep from falling into sins of lust.
- We want something better than just enough self-mastery to not blatantly lie or seek revenge.

We don't want to be this barely controlled bundle of wickedness where outwardly we live as Christians, but inwardly we are seething and simmering with temptation and sin.

3. How do we get there?

In my experience the Lord works to transform us little by little – it is just the daily work and effort put into knowing Jesus, loving Jesus, and following Jesus.

Lent gives us a good opportunity to restart this journey again – if we find that we've stalled out somewhere.

This year as well, at Star – we have been working on a few other things for all of us – to make ourselves available for that same encounter with Jesus that changes us and gives us light and life.

- Starts with coming to **Sunday Mass** to hear these great stories and reflect on what they mean for us.
- We are also going to give out to everyone who would like on a copy of the **Gospel of Mark** and invite people to prayerfully read through the Gospel – each day. Copy in the back (if you want or need it) and an ivory-colored sheet with a reading plan, and some helpful guidance on praying with SS.
- Our **Wednesday Evening Program** will use “Rescued” series by Fr. John Ricardo focusing on the questions: “Why did we need Jesus?” “How did Jesus save us?” “What difference does Jesus make?” “What does Jesus want from me?”
 - **Wednesday Evening Schedule**
 - 6pm Mass
 - 6:30 Soup Supper
 - 7-8pm Video Presentation
 - Night Prayer (Compline)
- **Parish Mission** *by Fr. Joseph Tuscan OFM Cap*
 - Weekend Masses March 4/5 - “Repent and Believe” Mark 1:15
 - Monday March 6th at 7pm “Recovering from the Spiritual Pandemic”
 - Tuesday March 7th at 7pm “The Four Last Things: Death, Judgment, Heaven and Hell”
 - Wednesday March 8th at Mass at 6pm, Soup Supper at 6:30, 7pm “The Solution: Prayer and the Holy Eucharist”

Lenten Schedule and “Invitation” (if you’d like to take one and invite someone you know) for Lent are in the back.