



An Invitation to Listen to God



“Cleanser”

To prepare for the next Small Group meeting you are invited to engage in the following process before you meet each week:

- Ask the Holy Spirit to open your mind and heart to hear God’s Word.
- Choose a scripture passage, read it and sit quietly with the Word.
- What moves you or attracts you in this reading?
- Does anything cause resistance in you? Do you know why?
- Take a few minutes to respond in writing to the readings.

Readings for the 3rd Sunday of Lent March 3, 2024

Reading 1: Exodus 20: 1-17
or Exodus 20: 1-3, 7-8, 12-17

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 19: 8-11

Reading 2: 1 Corinthians 1: 22-25

Gospel: John 2: 13-25

Questions

► *For group discussion:*

1. How can I be more focused and attentive when going to Mass and receiving the Eucharist? How do we prepare ourselves?
2. How is it that our sins can pass down through the generations? Are you ready to set a better example?
3. Have you been called? How will you answer? When?
4. Was Jesus’ righteous anger instantaneous or measured? How are we to act? For what?
5. Why did Jesus understand human nature well? How is this of comfort to us? Concern?

Suggestions from Fr Jim

1. Invite Jesus to identify and cleanse from your heart, mind, and soul whatever is displeasing and getting in the way of a deeper relationship with him.
2. Go through your closet and take out whatever you have not worn in the last six or eight months and donate it to the clothing bank.
3. Go through your cupboards and put together some items for the Thurston County Food Bank for the first Sunday of the month.

Gospel [JN 2:13-25](#)

Since the Passover of the Jews was near,
Jesus went up to Jerusalem.
He found in the temple area those who sold oxen, sheep, and doves,
as well as the money changers seated there.
He made a whip out of cords
and drove them all out of the temple area, with the sheep and oxen,
and spilled the coins of the money changers
and overturned their tables,
and to those who sold doves he said,
"Take these out of here,
and stop making my Father's house a marketplace."
His disciples recalled the words of Scripture,
Zeal for your house will consume me.
At this the Jews answered and said to him,
"What sign can you show us for doing this?"
Jesus answered and said to them,
"Destroy this temple and in three days I will raise it up."
The Jews said,
"This temple has been under construction for forty-six years,
and you will raise it up in three days?"
But he was speaking about the temple of his body.
Therefore, when he was raised from the dead,
his disciples remembered that he had said this,
and they came to believe the Scripture
and the word Jesus had spoken.

While he was in Jerusalem for the feast of Passover,
many began to believe in his name
when they saw the signs he was doing.
But Jesus would not trust himself to them because he knew them all,
and did not need anyone to testify about human nature.
He himself understood it well.