

Peace isgiving voice to the Truth

Psalm 95 “If today you hear God’s voice, harden not your hearts.”

2nd Timothy “Do not be ashamed of your testimony to our Lord.”
“Bear your share of hardship for the gospel
with the strength that comes from God.”

Luke 17:5 “Lord...Increase our faith.”

Reflection:

On any given day we have only to view the nightly news, read the paper, or look at the often overwhelming circumstances of our lives, and, like the prophet Habakkuk, we may find ourselves crying out to God, ‘Don’t You care?’ This is no time to allow the dreadful news of disasters to drag us down and rob us of our faith! In today’s first reading, the prophet hears God saying that help will come, “it will not be late,” and “The just one, because of his faith, will live.” St. Paul in today’s 2nd reading encourages us to “stir into flame the gift” of faith which we received when we first came to believe. It’s time to renew our confidence in the Lord, who is with us daily in both the bad and good times. It’s time to share our faith with others with both words and action!

When we actively share our belief in a loving, forgiving, merciful God, we increase our faith and the faith of others. When we reach out to others with helping hands and hearts, our positive actions give voice to the truth of God’s loving presence. When we see with the eyes of faith the abundant blessings of each day, we are compelled to “sing out” with the psalmist the glory of God, who is the “rock of our salvation”, the one who will never let us down.

The psalmist says “harden not your hearts [when you hear God’s voice].” Rather, we are to put into action the faith we profess. It doesn’t take a lot of faith, as today’s gospel reminds us - “faith the size of a [tiny] mustard seed”- that’s all.

Let’s not complain about all that is wrong. Rather, let us give voice to the truth of God’s abiding presence with us. Let us do all we can to help those most in need, while maintaining a positive attitude. It’s time to open our lives to the power of the Holy Spirit, who strengthens, inspires, and enables us to be spokespersons for our God, who is the Way, the Truth, and the Life.

Action:

- Pick up and read a copy of Rediscovering Catholicism and don’t hesitate to share its contents with your family, friends, and co-workers. (Copies available at St. John Church.)
- Give your public witness for LIFE by participating in this afternoon’s Rosary for Life at the IC grotto, or in the March for Life along Ridge Road (at Manor Ave.) today from 2 to 3 p.m.
- Participate in the 40 Day Prayers for Life at the Merrillville abortion clinic. (Sep 22 –Oct 31)
- Participate in Caps for Kids during the month of October.
- Prepare to vote in November by looking beyond the party to the individual and learning what he/she believes in and stands for.