

Thoughts from the Rectory ...

Dear friends of St. John the Evangelist,

“Be renewed in the spirit of your minds, and put on the new self, created in God’s way in righteousness and holiness of truth” (Eph. 4:23-24). With these words of St. Paul in today’s second reading, let us take courage and set out on the way of renewal in Christ! Be renewed in the spirit of your minds, and put on the new self!

It’s often easy for us to remain in the comfort of the known, the security of the familiar. We’ve learned a rhythm of life and a pace to living, wary to change when we’ve found our groove. Yet, Christ makes all things new. He does not leave us in our brokenness but restores us to something greater. He sets our sights high above and not on that which passes. “Do not work for food that perishes but for the food that endures for eternal life”!

Time is the measurement of change. From the moment we are born to the minute we die, we are continually changing, sometimes for better, sometimes for worse. We recognize this change in our outward appearance. Do we recognize this change in our inner selves? We see how the world changes all around us. Do we see how we change despite it?

The Israelites grumbled against Moses when the road got tough as they followed him out of slavery in pursuit of God’s promise. The initial thrill and enthusiasm gave way to doubt and confusion. “Would that we had died in the land of Egypt, as we sat by our fleshpots and ate our fill of bread!” they lamented. God offers us His promise and then invites us to rise up on the way. Even though it may seem easy for us to settle, it is not here where we are to stay. “Put away the old self of your former way of life, ... and put on the new self, created in God’s way in righteousness and holiness of truth”.

St. John the Evangelist, pray for us!

Fr. Pierz