

Fr. Glenn's Pen

Paul notes in the second reading how many people fail to recognize what truly is important, and in fact he goes on to point out that some people seem to brag about things that they should be ashamed of. I can recall a story of two people talking, both being contractors, a client had asked one of the contractors how much it would cost to have the carpet "scotch guarded", he was boasting how he told the lady some figure, and charged her more for something that had no cost to himself. He was boasting about his deceit and dishonesty. Our culture is quick to rejoice in "what they can get away with". The mark of true virtue and character is one's behavior when no one is watching.

When no one is watching us, how do we act. There are many temptations in our world today. The internet, an incredible tool and unprecedented in its potential for good. For the first time in human history there is the ability to get information that is not "filtered" by the elite to further some political agenda, but one can truly access all opinions. The real teachings of the Church can be accessed rather than simply being misrepresented sound bites or misquotes or things that are presented out of their appropriate context. With the internet there is also danger, many fall prey to pornography that can be readily accessed. For those who fall prey to this, they should go out and by software that will filter out such vile things that debase the human person and reduces God's beautiful creation to nothing more than a object to be consumed.

God promised Abraham a great progeny, of which we are a part. Peter, James and John rejoiced as they saw Moses and Elijah on the mountain, but they failed to see its true significance. We too are seemingly often blinded by the real significance of the great things around us. God however is so very patient with us and quick to extend his mercy and love.

There was an analogy that I believe is just wonderful. Think of how happy parents are with the art that comes home from children as they draw there pictures of things that are hardly discernable. It may be a human or a gorilla or a monkey, but it was an attempt from the child to be generous and give a gift to the parents. Are not the parents thrilled with the attempt? If that is the case with us, don't you think God would be thrilled with our attempts to offer Him something: the way we live our lives is our art work. The quality of the product is not nearly so important as the intention they lies behind the attempt.

Lent is a time for us to reflect on our intentions, it is time to work on a little project for God, namely ourselves. Let us strive to do our best in serving Jesus, so that the Father may be glorified in what we produce. May it be done with love and the desire to please the one to whom we owe everything! May we be instruments to guide all families to pursue the truth and live it!

