



## From the Pastor's Desk



### Lenten Thoughts

- Do not give your heart to that which does not satisfy your heart.
- Statio, which means making a commitment to stop one thing before beginning another.
- Lent is about reorienting ourselves not doing more.

### Does Lent Move Us Inward Or Outward?

The truth is that Lent should do both. Traditionally, Lent has been a time of introspection and reflection and this is good. Equal in our Lenten perspective can be found in Psalm 109.

*With my mouth I will greatly extol the Lord, in the great throng I will praise Him. For God stands at the right hand of the needy one, to save his life from those who condemn him.*

- Psalm 109:30-31

### An Ancient Thought, Ever New

Let us look at our own shortcomings and leave others alone; for those who live carefully ordered lives are apt to be shocked at everything and we might well learn very important lessons from the persons who shock us. Our outward behavior may be better than theirs, but his, though good is not the most important thing; there is no reason why we should expect everyone else to travel by our own road and we should not attempt to point them to the spiritual path when perhaps we do not know what it is...better to leave it to God.

- St. Teresa of Avila

### Ecclesiastes 3:1-15

*There is an appointed time for everything, and a time for every affair under the heavens.*

*A time to give birth, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to uproot the plant.*

*A time to kill, and a time to heal; a time to tear down, and a time to build.*

*A time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to dance.*

*A time to scatter stones, and a time to gather them; a time to embrace, and a time to be far from embraces.*

*A time to seek and a time to lose; a time to keep, and a time to cast away.*

*A time to rend, and a time to sew; a time to be silent, and a time to speak.*

*A time to love, and a time to hate; a time of war, and a time of peace.*

What profit have workers from their toil? I have seen the business that God has given to mortals to be busied about. God has made everything appropriate to its time, but has put the timeless into their hearts so they cannot find out, from beginning to end, the work which God has done. I recognized that there is nothing better than to rejoice and to do well during life. Moreover, that all can eat and drink and enjoy the good of all their toil - this is a gift of God. I recognized that whatever God does will endure forever; there is no adding to it, or taking from it. Thus has God done that he may be revered. What now is has already been; what is to be, already is: God retrieves what has gone by.