

February 26, 2017 – 8th Sunday in Ordinary Time – Cycle A
Fr. Larry Richards

Good morning! How are you? Blessed!

Today we hear very comforting readings in the gospel and in the first reading where God says “even should your mother forget, should I NEVER forget you.” I will never forget you! Never! That should be one of the most comforting things that we could ever reflect on. That from all eternity God has been thinking about you and me for all eternity. He has loved us for all eternity and he has thought of us. He has promised to never forget us. So often that’s some of our biggest fears, that we will be forgotten. But God says I will never forget you.

Then in the gospel He tells us you don’t have to worry about your life, I take care of all these birds, I take care of all these things, don’t you think I can take care of you? I will never forget you. So that would be a great thing for us to meditate on in our spiritual life for this week. But we also need to do of course is prepare for Lent, which begins on Wednesday. As we prepare for Lent, God looks at us and say I will never forget you, the problem usually is He doesn’t ever, ever, ever forgets us but we often forget about Him. So this Lent what we need to do is think about ways to teach me to always remember Him. Remember His love, remember His presence. So that I can go through. Again, hearing confession these fifteen years at the Parish, the daily prayers sometimes is a yep, sometimes no Father. I don’t want you to pray every day so much as I want you to pray every moment now. It’s Lent.

So one of the things that I want you and I do is think about you can do in your Spiritual Life to make you think about Jesus throughout the day? Some ways is when you get out of bed you fall on your knees and you start your days on your knees with Jesus every day during Lent. Another thing is if you have one of those watches that click or ring every hour for the time, you know, you those things, ping, its 8 o clock, okay ping it’s 9 o clock, ping it’s 10 o clock, that is the moment you stop and think of Jesus and pray to Jesus. It could be every time in the car this is my time to think of Jesus. It could be something you put on your pillow that says pray so you never got to bed without thinking of Jesus. Maybe putting something on your mirror, so you don’t go without thinking of Jesus. You could put a sticky note on your refrigerator, some of you go to your refrigerator more than others so you could think about Jesus a lot. Every time think of Jesus, pray to Jesus, whatever it is for you that you can think about, instead of just giving up whatever. This Lent let’s focus on never forgetting about Jesus. Because He never forgets about us.

If you and I look at this Lent as something that grows closer to Him, where I never forget about Him. That I can trust, He’s going to take care of me more than He takes care of birds, He’ll take care of all my needs because He says today, how do we do that? Seek ye first His Kingdom and His righteousness and all these things will be given to you. We seek the Kingdom by seeking Jesus, who brings the Kingdom. So He never forgets about us, let us try to never forget about Him. May each of you know His love today and forever, Amen.