

May 27, 2020-Reflections for the Easter Season Ms. Albano

In the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.

Dear God, I acknowledge the Mississauga's of the Credit First Nation for being the ongoing stewards of this traditional territory.



A reading from the Acts of Apostles

“Keep watch over yourselves and over all the flock, of which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the church of God that he obtained with the blood of his own Son.* I know that after I have gone, savage wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock. Some even from your own group will come distorting the truth in order to entice the disciples to follow them. Therefore be alert, remembering that for three years I did not cease night or day to warn everyone with tears. And now I commend you to God and to the message of his grace, a message that is able to build you up and to give you the inheritance among all who are sanctified. I coveted no one's silver or gold or clothing. You know for yourselves that I worked with my own hands to support myself and my companions. ” (Acts of the Apostles 20:28-34)*

The popular refrain from the movie Frozen, ‘Let it Go’, has been echoed and sung a million times. Ten times more if you have a child who loved the movie. Consider that many Presidents or Prime Ministers of democratic nations know there will come a time when they will make life-altering decisions for a people and then they will have to let go of that power when people vote them out. Graduating students know their life as a high school student is ending. A time to say goodbye to friends, teachers, and a community that helped them mature into young adults.

Anytime we have to let go of a leadership role or anything routine, fear and doubt creep into our minds and heart. With St. Paul, he was constantly letting go of his leadership roles. For every community he helped to build, he knew he had an expiry date. A time when he had to move on to help with another group of followers. He was also aware of the risk he was taking every time he left a community. The risk that the faithful would lose their way under the guidance of another leader. But as we see in scripture, he trusted in God to know what he built would grow and flourish without him. He knew that it wasn't by his will that these communities started, grew and thrived, but it was through the grace of the Holy Spirit. All he could give them was an example and pray they would remember what it means to follow Christ in their life and those chosen to lead them. Being a scholar, he knew the history of Israel and how they had let fear and pride influence them to stray from God.

I pray for all of us who have made sacrifices during COVID-19. May we let go of the way we used to live our lives, of being inattentive to the needs of others. Let us not fall back into old habits of having things done according to my time line. May we have the grace of St. Paul to let go of those things which keep us from growing and the wisdom to know who leads us down the path to God. With the courage and wisdom of the Holy Spirit, may we remember the words of Jesus who said, “Remember I am with you always till the end of days.” Amen. In the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.