

Sunday, March 10, 2024

The Fourth Sunday of Lent

- 1) 2 Chronicles 36:14-16,19-23
- 2) Ephesians 2:4-10
- 3) John 3:14-21

FOCUS: Offer gifts of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving out of love and gratitude to our merciful God.

We offer our humble gifts of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving to God out of gratitude. We recognize that all is gift. God has poured out his grace upon us. We joyfully draw near to the giver of all good gifts in the spiritual practices we take up in this season.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

The first reading chronicles the fall of Jerusalem because of the people's unfaithfulness, and the fulfillment of the prophecies through Cyrus, king of Persia. In his Letter to the Ephesians, Paul speaks of the richness of God's mercy and *the immeasurable riches of his grace*. The Gospel tells of Jesus' conversation with Nicodemus and the immense love God has for us.

UNIVERSAL PRAYER

PRIEST: The Lord calls us to follow him as his friends and disciples. Let us offer the prayers of this community to him who knows what we need.

- 1) For the Church, may we be filled with God's love and may the guidance of the Holy Spirit be our strength, let us pray to the Lord.
- 2) For civic leaders, may they be given the grace to act in accordance with God's will, let us pray to the Lord.
- 3) For all oppressed by darkness or evil, may the light of Christ draw them to God's mercy, let us pray to the Lord.
- 4) For this community of faith, may we be strengthened by the immeasurable riches of God's grace, let us pray to the Lord.
- 5) For all the faithful departed, may they be embraced this day by the loving arms of Christ, let us pray to the Lord.
- 6) (Special petition/s)

PRIEST: God of mercy, receive and answer these prayers we offer you with hearts full of gratitude, through Jesus Christ our Lord.