

3rd Sunday of Lent

Great readings today:

In 1st reading – after being released from slavery, after seeing the Red Sea part, after walking for about 3 months in the desert, after manna, water from a rock, quail

- Standing at base of Mt. Sinai Moses tells them that God was going to speak to them
- Clouds, thunder, lightning **God is getting there attention!**
- And they are given the 10 commandments

In the Gospel – Jesus makes a whip, deliberately – & **gets their attention** then cleans house

What does He need to do to get our attention?

The answer to that is in the 2nd reading – St Paul says:

“Jews demand a sign, and Greeks look for wisdom; but we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews, and foolishness to Gentiles”

We preach Christ crucified – **that is what JC did to get our attention**

Our faith is in Christ crucified, & risen

“A stumbling block to Jews, and foolishness to Gentiles”

True story:

I know a priest who felt called to missions & served in Tanzania

When he first arrived the Masai came to visit & pay their respects over tea

He had a crucifix on the wall & they asked about it

So he explained about Jesus and His crucifixion – they laughed at him

“If He was God, how did He allow these people to kill Him?

Why didn’t He just kill them instead?

It seems funny to us that your God would suffer and die like this.”

Logical – from a purely human perspective, that’s logical

Christians have something beyond logic and human wisdom – FAITH

At Mount Sinai God used thunder and lightning to get their attention.

In the Gospel, Jesus makes a whip and got everyone's attention.

On Easter Jesus uses an empty tomb to get our attention – 2000 years later He still has it!

We are meant to be the temple of the HS – ***Jesus cleans temples!***

It's Lent – this is a time set apart for us to look within. How clean is your temple?

Are you willing to let the Lord to enter your temple and kick over a few things?

Lent is a time for letting God get our attention.

Sometimes he'll use thunder and lightning

Sometimes he'll use a whip

Sometimes he'll be a still small voice of your conscience calling you home

Take time this week and Listen to HIM.