

4th Sunday of Lent - B

It's Gaudate Sunday – Rejoice Sunday! - Rose Vestments – Readings are uplifting!
R E J O I C E!

In the 1st Reading from IIChron.

We hear of Gods wrath and judgment –
Babylonian captivity because of sin **(deserved)**
AND (because loves His people)
We hear of God's mercy & Israel's release
REJOICE!

The 2nd Reading from Eph begins:

“God who is rich in mercy, because of His great love for us, even when we were dead in
or sin, brought us to life with Christ” **REJOICE**

“By grace you have been saved through faith” **REJOICE**

In the Gospel We have John 3:16 – A famous verse – People hold up “JOHN 3:16” under
goal posts, and at Soccer games – John 3:16 says:

“For God so loved the world that He gave His only Son, so that everyone who believes in
Him may not perish but have eternal life” **REJOICE**

BUT – it's Lent

A time for prayer, fasting, alms giving – penance is the focal point, right? Wrong!!

Why do we do all these penitential acts – to what end?

The end goal of repentance is forgiveness, mercy, reconciliation – **REJOICE**

Remember that II Chron starts by recalling Babylonian captivity because of sin

But, while in captivity, there is repentance

Repentance is met with God's mercy - releasing them with compassion

We pass through penance and repentance in Lent - to get to forgiveness

To get to Easter!

To get to Easter, Jesus had to go through Calvary accepting my punishment –

That I (We) might REJOICE)

Today, Gaudate Sunday – Repent – Look within – Be honest

Repent and experience God's mercy and forgiveness

We have Gaudate Sunday for a reason

Repentance brings JOY – embrace the forgiveness God has for you

REJOICE