



FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

March 10, 2024

St. James Catholic Church

*3909 Harrison * Kansas City, Missouri 64110*

Reflection from Sr. Fran Voivedich

All three of our readings this Sunday call us to recognize that God is always calling us to live out God's everlasting love. Second Chronicles relates God's relentless call for the people to leave behind their wicked ways and return to worship the God of Israel. The people did not listen; did not hear the invitation; were eventually captured and exiled to Babylon. However, God's love and mercy were not absent. This love and mercy even inspired Cyrus, King of Persia. Eventually they were able to leave and able to worship in Jerusalem again.

For God so loved the world.

Paul reminds us that just as in Chronicles when people were dead to God's voice, we have redemption by God's great gift of love, Jesus. We belong to God by Christ's great gift of salvation; we are to live in light and love.

For God so loved the world.

In the gospel, St John states it perfectly. God did not send His Son into the world to condemn it, but to bring the whole world to perfection in Christ. In the light that Christ shines, all things are made known, all things are made clear and all are saved through the enormous gifts of Life, Death and Resurrection. All throughout the history of salvation, God has led God's people through all kinds of "No's and "Yes's" to the eternal reward of God's great love.

For God so loved the world.