

TRINITY NEWS

March 7, 2010

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Lent III History and Memory

Retrospect:

We are told by spiritual masters that memory can be damaging. It can hold us back. We can be mired in the past. As a child we do not forget when someone makes us feel lost and alone by belittling us. When we are adults the sting of past hurts causes us to blame the wrong people and to excuse ourselves. There is no escaping the past except by copying the best of it and correcting the worst of it in ourselves. Then it will offer us its gifts and its excesses and wrongs will lose their power over us. Looking back is a crucial part of being human. When we watch a movie that we have seen many times we know what is going to happen. We cannot change the movie, but the replays of our life can be altered in their affect on us.

Paul reminds his Jewish readers of the Exodus from Egypt and how they recalled the crossing of the Red Sea. Then the march through the wilderness that went on for forty years. Stamped on their memories were these images and those of the pillar of cloud by day and the pillar of fire by night that eventually led them to the Promised Land (I Corinthians 1:1-4). John the Baptizer had baptised some of their people. Jesus himself had been baptized in the Jordan. They remembered the water-crossing of the Exodus and they linked it to the Baptism of Jesus and their own Baptism into the Way of

Christ. The past was recalled in the present. We cannot live in past, but we cannot live without it. The past is always present, but it cannot speak for the present without interpretation.

Living Now:

Crucial things also happen in our personal histories, and they fill up the field of our memories with good and bad images. But they must not be allowed to distort our vision or destroy us. “So if you think that you are standing, watch out that you do not fall. No testing has overtaken you that is not common to everyone. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tested beyond your strength, but with the testing he will also provide the way out so that you may be able to endure it” (I Corinthians 10:12-13).

These words are a huge comfort when we are tested and indeed broken by the circumstances of our life. Whether it is health or finances or broken relationships or all sorts of little fears, we are sorely tested at times. We also live in a broken and divided global context which crowds into our vision every day, bringing darkness into life. **But even in the shadows of our life there stands One who will strengthen us and show us the way out. “Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil”, says much the same thing. When we do not trust God we lose sight of God. When we trust God, we ‘see’ God again. Christ walks with us out of the shadows and brings us into light; and renewed hope.**

Bishop Arthur Jones

Your prayers are asked in our healing ministry for Beryl Tanner, JPeter, Bonnie SyCip, Carlyn-Fern Manning, Rom Vildzius, Loy Solasco, Aris Paraman, Isabel Yu, Johnny Manning Jr, Emerinciana Gatela, Fr. Gabriel Dimanche, Benjie Conzales, Jovel Llagas, Ted Whale, Richard

Kendall, Diana Croyston, Merly Quiapos, Susan Dalmas, Helen Irvine, Ron Jacob, Carrie Angus, Suzanne Jacobson, Amy Gonzales, Janet Johnstone, Emma Duhaylongsod, Ron & Vera Thoburn, Nikolai Gordevich, Harriet Campbell-Wilson, Fidelia Matthews, Gloria Domingo.

THIS WEEK:

March 9, Tuesday.

- Diocesan Convention, St. Stephen's Church.
- Bible Study, 10am, Parish Hall.

March 11, Thursday.

- Eucharist, 10am, Chapel.
- Bible Study, 7pm, Rectory.

March 13, Saturday.

- Vestry Planning Day, 9am.

March 14, Sunday.

- Regular Sunday worship, 7:30 & 9:30am
- Sunday School, 9:15am



Dear Bishop Jones,

POPPY APPEAL 2009

Thank you for allowing a collection for The Royal British Legion Poppy Fund Appeal last year. The Holy Trinity Church collected a total of Php 26,851.80.

I should be grateful if you could extend our gratitude to all your members.

*Hannah Teh
Consular Assistant
British Embassy, Manila*

	Pledges	Loose Plate
Last Sunday	P80,400.00	P18,612.00
Year-to-date	P664,316.66	P156,884.00
2010 Budget	P3,900,000.00	P940,000.00

Next week's readings:

Joshua 5:9-12; Psalm 34
2 Corinthians 5:17-21
Luke 15:11-32