

*From the Vicar's Desk*



*Next Sunday is Palm Sunday, the day Our Lord triumphantly entered Jerusalem on the back of a donkey. There was a great, joyous crowd around Him that day. They waved palms and shouted, "Hosanna," declaring Him their king and long-awaited Messiah. Five days later, it would be Good Friday and the joyous crowd that had praised Jesus, would become a blood thirsty crowd. This time they waved their fists, shouting, "Crucify Him!" What a fickle crowd! They were so easily misled by their leaders. Are we that fickle? Can we be misled by our leaders? Are our values and beliefs negotiable? Just for instance, are we 'fickle' when it comes to abortion? Is one form of abortion 'O.K.' because it is less cruel than some other form or because it's performed 'earlier' rather than 'later?' Regardless of the form or time of the abortion, what about the baby's soul? If we believe that God infuses a soul at the moment of conception (when else--?), how could any such act be moral? And since when do 'circumstances' of a particular pregnancy affect the 'morality' of abortion? Since when does one wrong act justify a second wrong act? Some things ought not be debatable or negotiable. For example, this should always be unchanging: the 'end' never justifies the 'means.' Of all the days of our lives, we do not want to be with the wrong, fickle crowd on Judgment Day!*

*It is precisely because of Good Friday that we don't have to be afraid of Judgment Day. He died so, 'sins could be forgiven!' Lent has been a time to journey inward, closer to Jesus. If there are moral questions in our life that need addressed, there is no better time than now, this Lent, to deal with such things and to be reconciled. Christ is the Second Adam. He came to reconcile the world to His Father. On Golgotha Hill, Christ made the Father an offer He could not refuse. He set up the Church, gave us the sacraments, personally washed feet, and then died on a cross. Lent is a special, holy time to journey inward. There will be extra times for Confessions. Recall the episode in Our Lord's life when He refused to condemn the woman caught in adultery --because she was sorry. Her accusers were silent, for good reason. Such example from Jesus instructs me to be compassionate and understanding, as was He. If you haven't already, I urge you to take advantage of the Lord's wonderful Sacrament of Reconciliation, our direct link to Calvary. (Personally, I don't care how long you may have been away or where you've been ...we don't work on commission!)*

*Your Vicar, fr.t.*

P.S. Thank you, already, for the many Easter cards & gifts.