

Reflection for Wednesday 5th Week of Lent

Dan 3:14-20, 91-92,95 John 8:31-42

Jesus, in trying to convince the Jews that he was sent by God, invited them to open themselves to the truth. He assured them that if they did, the truth would set them free.

‘The truth will set you free’. This is one of most frequently quoted sayings of the Gospel. It is hard to underestimate the value of truth.

Truth brings clarity and simplicity to life. It liberates us from the darkness of error and from the entanglements of lies and deceit. Truth is a straight path. Truth is a bright path. Yet how hard it is to find a person who is totally open to the truth.

The enemies of truth are ignorance, denial, deception, lies. To walk in ignorance and denial is to walk in darkness. To walk in deception is to walk a slippery path. To walk in lies is to walk a crooked path.

Sometimes the truth is staring us in the face; it’s just that we don’t have the courage to face it. It can take great courage to face the truth. But those who do, will experience the truth of Jesus’ word: the truth will set them free. We are God’s children, made to delight in the truth.

Sometimes it is our duty to speak the truth to someone who is in error. To do this effectively, we have to do it with love and concern for the person. It goes without saying that we can’t guide another if we are in darkness ourselves.

The call to seek the truth today is a call, ultimately, to grow in our relationship with Jesus.

If we want to be disciples of Jesus, we must strive to live by the truth of the Gospel. Jesus says that we must ‘make his word our home’. How many of us as Christian have truly made his word our home?

God has revealed himself to us in Jesus. To walk in his truth is to walk in the light. It is to be free.

To know Jesus, to love Jesus, to follow Jesus, is the way to God and it is in God, and only in God, that we will find true happiness, freedom and peace.

We pray that all Christians may walk in the light of truth and goodness.

Fr Patrick