

Thought for the week
7th April 2019
5th Sunday of Lent

Here on this 5th Sunday of Lent, as we acknowledge that we may have stumbled somewhat in our Lenten journey, we are reminded by St Paul not to strive for perfection; to accept we are not perfect.

“I’m no longer trying for perfection by my own efforts, the perfection that comes from the Law, but I want only the perfection that comes through faith in Christ, and is from God and based on Faith.”

Paul 3;10

And St John’s Gospel this week relates how the scribes and Pharisees, many of whom considered themselves a superior class of Christian, brought a woman accused of adultery to Jesus as he taught at the Temple.

Asked whether she should be stoned to death as the Law instructed. Jesus said:

“If there is one of you who has not sinned, let him be the first to throw a stone at her.”

John 8:1-11

Striving for perfection or certainty is always going to leave us unfulfilled and quick to find imperfections in others.

As the late Jesuit writer Fr Gerard W Hughes concludes in his book “In search of a Way:”

“Lord save us from every form of certainty...Help us to keep searching after you, our way, until we reach the end of the pilgrimage when every tear will be wiped away and we shall know you, our God as you are and in you be at one with ourselves, with all men, with all creation.”

The final verse of the Psalm gives us a sense of the mixed poignancy and joy of our journey:

*They go out, they go out, full of tears,
carrying seed for the sowing:
they come back, they come back, full of song,
carrying their sheaves*

A Parishioner