

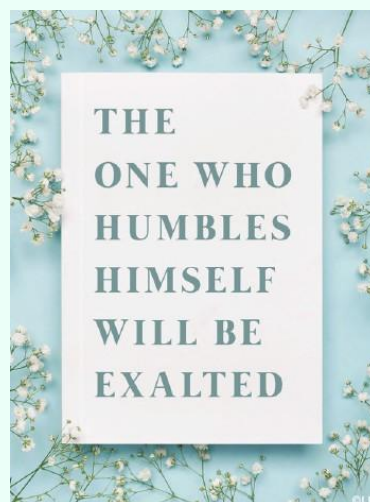


From the Desk of Father Peter

*God Can Do Wonders in Our Lives
Because We Believe*

Faith is a simple word, yet it contains a powerhouse of potential for our happiness and even our survival as people. Faith cannot be scientifically measured or quantified; yet we know it exists. Countless people throughout time have witnessed to the importance of faith in their lives. Some have taken their faith to the limits of martyrdom because of what they believed.

For most of us, our faith sustains us in the daily routine of life. For others, faith is the driving force that carries us through our most difficult times.



St Paul wrote: "If you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved." Romans 10:9. The creed we recite every Sunday at Mass is our statement of faith. So, we can trust that salvation is ours as we "confess" this creed and place our faith and trust in the truths that this creed announces.

St Augustine said God created us without our help, but he will not save us without our help. While Jesus' death and resurrection have brought about redemption, we will have a role to play in letting that redemption penetrate our hearts and minds.

Jesus tells us we cannot serve two masters. If we try to serve two masters, we will either hate the one and love the other, or we will

be devoted to the one and despise the other. Matthew 6:24.

Placing this teaching within the context of our lives, most of us probably have several masters we are trying to serve. These include trying to serve the Lord while seeking to grow wealthy or seeking to serve the Lord while trying to gain the love and approval of others. The way to help ensure that our lives and hearts are truly focused on serving the Master, the Lord our God who promotes our greatest good, is through prayer and reflection. That is right—good old-fashioned prayer and reflection. This means that we need to clear away the clutter and perhaps shut off our cell phone, television, and computers so we can make time to pray each and every day.

It can be easy to forget that we depend on God's mercy for every breath we take. Every good attribute we have is a gift from His generous hand. It can be easy to think that Jesus "owes" us a favor because of our faithfulness, but in reality, we owe Him for everything we are and everything we have. He is our Savior, not our business partner; He is our Lord, not our next door neighbor. Connected to the Lord Jesus in faith, we really can move mountains!

May we pray to serve our God and God alone, and not rely solely on material things that do not endure forever.



*Peace and love to all,
Fr. Peter Enyan-Boadu*