

From the Desk of Father Peter

May We be Guided by the Holy Spirit

The last wishes of Alexander the Great… On his deathbed, Alexander summoned his army generals and told them his three ultimate wishes:

1. *The best doctors should carry his coffin…*
2. *The wealth he has accumulated (money, gold, precious stones) should be scattered along the procession to the cemetery…*
3. *His hands should be let loose so they hang outside the coffin for all to see!*

One of his generals who was surprised by these unusual requests asked Alexander to explain. Here is what Alexander the Great said: I want the best doctors to carry my coffin to demonstrate that in the face of death, even the best doctors in the world have no power to heal.

I want the road to be covered with my treasure so that everybody sees that material wealth acquired on earth, will stay on earth.

I want my hands to swing in the wind so that people understand that we come into this world empty-handed and we leave this world empty-handed after the most precious treasure of all is exhausted, and that is TIME.



We do not take to our grave any material wealth. TIME is our most precious treasure because it is

LIMITED. We can produce more wealth but we cannot produce more TIME. When we give someone our time, we actually give a portion of our life that we can never take back. Our time is our life! The best present that we can give to our family of faith and ourselves is our TIME with GOD. We are part of the Church but also we are part of a society and world that is filled with constant changes and surprises. We bring this reality wherever we go. We don't leave this cultural reality of change at the church door. Yet despite all of this, we find ourselves searching for stability in our church, but even that reality has changed and continues to change. We often experience the challenge of this constantly shifting reality, but it is also an opportunity to remember what truly anchors us. As Catholics we have faced changes in our parishes and in the Mass itself. I invite us to reflect on these questions below in the next few weeks.

1. *What are some threads—personal beliefs and convictions—that I hold onto in life and help anchor me amidst shifting sands of change?*
2. *What helps me hold onto them?*
3. *What makes it difficult to hold on? And why?*
4. *What inner resources serve to sustain me?*

Let us spend time focusing on what makes us members of St. John's church.



May God Bless Us All,
Fr. Peter Enyan-Boadu