

Homily - 5/16/2021

More than 20 years ago Sister Catherine Krugler was our Director of Religious Education. One day at our staff meeting she quoted something from the Bible that I still remember, “Without a vision the people perish.”

Martin Luther King had a vision, a dream for America. Listen to his words, “When we allow freedom to ring – when we let it ring from every city and every hamlet, from every state and every city, we will be able to speed up that day when all of God’s children, black men (women) and white men (women), Jews and Gentiles, Protestants and Catholics, will be able to join hands and sing in the words of the old Negro spiritual, “Free at last, Free at last, Thank Great God Almighty, We are free at last”

In the 17th Chapter of St. John’s Gospel we hear the dream, the prayer of Jesus, the great priestly prayer of Jesus for us, “Holy Father” He prays “keep them in your name.... so that they may share my joy completely” – “Keep them from the evil one” – consecrate them in the truth. Your word is truth. As you sent me into the world so I sent them into the world and I consecrate myself for them, so that they also may be may be consecrated in truth.”

Wow! What a prayer, what a vision, what a dream.

Now what is your dream for yourself, for your family, for you career? Remember, without a dream the people perish. Your dream needs to include your final destination; life with God. Believe it or not your dream will make all the difference in your life.

And here’s a biggy, what is our dream for our parish? I think I asked you to read the Acts of the Apostles during the Easter season. You still have plenty of time – until Pentecost – 2 weeks. There you see the life of the early Christian Community. Constantly, they gathered to hear the Word of God, to celebrate the Eucharist and also cared for the poor and brought the word of Jesus death and Resurrection to their neighbors and friends – and even to the furthest ends of the earth

And so, what is our dream? I have lots of elements in my dream for our parish community. I dream that many of us will be members of small Lectio Divina groups, gathering together with some regularity to share faith and the Scripture for the coming Sunday. This has the potential to form small communities of faith which then can merge into our Parish Community. It’s not difficult and can really strengthen our parish. Another dream I have is to form a couple’s ministry among our Spanish speaking community.

With Jesus we pray “May we all be one” with Jesus, with one another and in our communities.