



## February 2018 - Lenten Reflection

A few years ago, I received a call from an alum, asking if we could get together to talk over a few things. We met for lunch; and in the course of the conversation, he mentioned that he was really struggling with his faith, looking for answers that just didn't seem to come. His questions were definitely not new ones; they were questions I had heard countless times over the years, and some were questions I had asked myself at times. As we were ending our time together and setting up a schedule for future discussions, he said, "J, it would be so easy if God just gave us more signs!"

When I got home, I started going through some of the things that I had written over the years, and I came across a mid-90's reconciliation service. I don't think I found it by accident, because God's message came through loud and clear. I shared it with the young alum, and I share it now with you:

"My children, I have loved you from the first moment when the universe fell from my fingertips. I have been with you at all times, as I am now. The sign for which you look has been given. My only Son came into this world to show you that I am with you in joy and in sorrow, in victory and in disappointment, in pain and in love. He came so that the eyes of those blinded by fear and hurt might be opened; that those imprisoned by hatred and anger might be set free; that those lost in the darkness of depression and worry might be guided into the light of peace. The sign has been given. No greater sign could ever be. In this sign, you will truly conquer, finding the power to transform and to change, turning away from those things that divide and separate. Those things that cause hurt and pain. Those things that keep you from me and from each other. The sign for which you look has been given!"

As I write this, we are just beginning the Season of Lent, the most solemn of all weeks in the Church year. These forty days lead us to Good Friday, but we are not left there. We are taken to the empty tomb and to the glory of the Resurrection. Life is not easy and definitely holds its share of "Good Fridays," but we are never left there! For every Good Friday, there is an Easter Sunday that follows! The sign has been given: "By your cross and resurrection you have set us free!"

I pray that our God who loves us and holds us and all of our tomorrows be with each of you, that you may be strong and faithful and faith-filled in what can be a difficult and challenging world. God's blessings always, my friends!

Love and Prayers,  
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Campus Minister

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