

HOMILY 3RD SUN EASTER YRC 2019

Don't talk of stars
Burning above;
If you're in love,
Show me!

Tell me no dreams
Filled with desire.
If you're on fire,
Show me!

Never do I ever want to hear another word.
There isn't one I haven't heard.
Here we are together in what ought to be a dream;
Say one more word and I'll scream!

Don't talk of June,
Don't talk of fall!
Don't talk at all!
Show me! Show me!

Don't talk of love
Lasting through time.
Make me no undying vow.
Show me now!

That is kind of a fun song from *My Fair Lady* that makes a point. Love is not about words and it is not about feelings, it is about how we show that love. Today in the Gospel reading we have an account of a post Resurrection appearance of Jesus to the disciples and Jesus is having an interaction with Peter. He asks Peter three times if he loves him and Peter says that he does. Three times Jesus has the same response. Feed my lambs, feed my sheep. What Jesus is telling him here is if you love me, show me. Love is not about words or feelings. Love is about what we do. Love is about how we show our love. Words have been cheap with Peter. Before Jesus was crucified, Peter denies even knowing Jesus three times. Now a few days later Peter is telling Jesus that he loves him. Which is it? Ultimately it is not a matter of his words; it is a matter of what he does. Jesus has a great deal of patience with his disciples. Jesus is way

more patient than I would be. Three years ago, Jesus called them to be fishers of men and women. They follow Jesus, listen to his teaching and preaching, observe his miracles, and watch how he loves and serves everyone he comes in contact with. Before the crucifixion he tries to tell them that he is going to suffer and die and then be raised after three days. They either do not understand or do not want to hear it. He demonstrated his love for them and dies on the cross. After the Resurrection he appears to them so that they know that he is still with them and loving them. He has been showing them how to love and how to be disciples for over three years, and where are they at the beginning of this Gospel reading? They are right back where they started. They are fishing for fish. They are not fishers of men and women, they are not disciples. Jesus tells them if they love me you have to show me. They have to change what they do.

I think Jesus has the same message for us today. We all are followers of Jesus. That is why we are here, right. We are in the midst of celebrating Easter. We know that Jesus is alive and with us and loving us. And we all love Jesus, right? If we really love Jesus we have to show him. We have to act like disciples. We have to love and serve the people around us. And we can all be better disciples tomorrow than we are today. We all need to decide what that means for us. Maybe that means sharing your faith with others. Maybe that means bring people to the Church. Maybe that means becoming more involved in the community at St. Edith. Maybe that means becoming more involved in Christian service activities. Maybe that means developing a deeper relationship with Jesus. Maybe that means thinking of ourselves less and loving others more. If we love Jesus we have to show him. And if not today, when?

Don't wait until
Wrinkles and lines
Pop out all over my brow,
Show me now!