

**April 24, 2020-Reflections for the Easter Season**  
**Ms. Albano**

In the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Dear God, I acknowledge the Mississauga's of the Credit First Nation for being the ongoing stewards of this traditional territory.



***A reading from the Gospel of John***

*“John the Baptist said to his disciples: “The one who comes from above is above all; the one who is of the earth belongs to the earth and speaks about earthly things. The one who comes from heaven is above all. He testifies to what he has seen and heard, yet no one accepts his testimony. Whoever has accepted his testimony has certified this, that God is true. He whom God has sent speaks the words of God, for he gives the Spirit without measure.”*

These days, we understand how patience is a virtue. Children have to show patience with their parents while parents have to double down in being patient with them. Teachers have to take their lessons, retool them for online purposes, while students have to adjust to learning in this format. We even have to learn how to exercise patience when we are trying to be everything to everyone in our homes when we know that we are limited in our ability and there is nowhere to hide from these demands. Perhaps, the freedom of movement is the one that irks people these days, especially when we want to buy food. Grocery stores or online shopping is another place where we have to wait in line or weeks to purchase what we need.

If our patience has failed, and you have felt overwhelmed, forgive yourself. It is natural. In today's readings, John the Baptist was explaining who they were waiting for and to have patience for that day to arrive. Holding on to hope and learning is a gift which patience gives us all. If we remember that God does not call us to be perfect, we will learn or relearn some valuable lessons. Here are some that I have either learned or relearned during this time.

1. When I lost the freedom to go as I please and buy what I want when I want it, I realized it is a privilege.
2. When I cannot have my food order fulfilled, I learn to accept it and appreciate what I have received.
3. Patience is the gift where we live in God's providence.

Let us pray for the virtue of patience to abound in the following days. May stress not burden us down, but let hope raise you up. Believe that when the day returns for us to return to our routines, we can embrace being patient with each other and ourselves. May we remember that what I could live without today will remain the same when our isolations ends. May I take comfort in the words of Jesus at the Ascension, “Remember I am with you always till the end of days.” Amen. In the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.