



## May 1, 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 Acts of the Apostles*

*But Ananias answered, "Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he has done to your saints in Jerusalem; and here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who invoke your name." But the Lord said to him, "Go, for he is an instrument whom I have chosen to bring my name before Gentiles and kings and before the people of Israel; I myself will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name." So Ananias went and entered the house. He laid his hands on Saul and said, "Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on your way here, has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit."*

All of us have had that moment when we know we have made a wrong decision. I have been in stores where people have a huge garbage bag of items to return after receiving their online order. We may have procrastinated in completing assignments or homework to only feel the weight of that decision when we get the test back from our teacher. During COVID-19, we have witnessed leaders and public health officials acknowledge their error in judgement early in the pandemic. As the old English saying goes, hindsight is 20/20 where it is easier to look back on your decisions and see what the right thing to do in time as opposed to predicting the future.

With Saul, a.k.a. St. Paul, he experienced this moment of hindsight when he realized all his actions were against God. The conversion of St. Paul is a glorious reminder for all of us. God does not call us to be perfect, but wants us to acknowledge our sins. God knows others will be led astray, but he does not leave us to fend for ourselves. God is always ready to intervene when we are ready to hear and listen to him. For some, it is a slight gesture of kindness from someone, or like St. Paul you need a dramatic revelation to see the impact of your decisions. Regardless, God calls each of us to acknowledge our sins so we can perform a certain task which brings ourselves to the truth of God and our lives. The key is in one's humility to acknowledge their sins and make retributions and peace with those you have harmed. For in a contrite heart, God shows his mercy and gives us the courage to seek forgiveness and accept that God and others have forgiven us.

As we begin this month of May, may we have hearts that contemplate on the Word of God like Mary. May we have moments of conversion like St. Paul and then with a fearless heart learn and preach about the faith in word and action. As today also marks a call to priestly and consecrated life vocations, may those called to serve Christ in his ministry of sacraments, faith, understanding, and action increase in numbers and humility. May everyone have a blessed weekend and never forget 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.