

A Coffee with Alessio



The Fifth Sunday of Lent Year A

Well, we are past the halfway point of Lent, and we are heading into the last two weeks of this liturgical season. I hope your Lent has been a fruitful and prayerful one for you so far, and enriched you spiritually.

In this Sunday's Gospel reading, we hear the story of Lazarus being raised from the dead. In one of the dialogues in this story between Jesus and Martha he tells her:

"I am the resurrection and the life;
whoever believes in me, even if he dies,
will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die."

Immediately, the hymn *I am the Bread of Life* by Suzanne Toolan RSM comes to mind. This is a hymn that every parish should know and use. However, like all familiar hymns, it can be done well with oomph and gusto, like the choc chips and icing on a chocolate cake, or it can be done plainly like a sponge bought from the local supermarket. I much prefer the first option!

We return to the somberness and simplicity of Lent in our liturgy this weekend. Therefore, silence for the Recessional would be effective again this weekend. Just as we return to the simplicity in our liturgy this weekend, so to, do I with my coffee. A small flat white somewhere is just what I need.

Enjoy your coffee!

Alessio Loiacono
Music Field Officer

Friday 31 March 2017