

# Trinity News

February 28, 2010

## Lent II - Sacred Places: Jesus' Sorrow for Jerusalem (Luke 13:31-35)

It goes against the run of play to have Pharisees coming to Jesus to warn him about Herod Antipas' plans to kill him (13:31-33). But the Pharisees did have a huge dislike of Herod and the Herodians.

The sorrow of Jesus for Jerusalem is a sorrow that is shared by the writer of this Gospel. Luke sees Jerusalem as a focal point in Jesus' ministry and the base for the first Christian missions. Jesus' anguish about the coming destruction of the Temple and the suffering to be endured by his people clearly demonstrates that he was deeply touched by the sacred places and the sacred history of his people. "Go tell that fox, I will drive out demons and heal people today and tomorrow, and on the third day I will reach my goal. In any case, I must keep going today and tomorrow and the next day – for surely no prophet can die outside Jerusalem!" (13:31-33).

Jesus then laments over Jerusalem: "O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, you who kill the prophets and stone those sent to you." (13: 34a).

Luke may not have found it easy to write such words about what is truly a "holy city" to him, the focus of the Passion of Christ and the subsequent Christian Mission.

The closing section (13:34b-35) draws together images of children and a hen with chickens under her wings as markers of "the great love of God revealed in his son". The house of Israel will be left desolate, and they will not see him again until they say: "Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord".

Jerusalem was a sacred place for both Jesus and indeed for every Israelite. It was the place where God would cause his name to dwell according to the book of Deuteronomy. It is not named in Deuteronomy, but the intention is abundantly clear. It has been the setting for the rising and falling of many rulers and their regimes over the centuries. It could even attract a writer such as Luke and win him over because of the One who came there one day to write his name into the annals of its history like no other. We all need our sacred places and our sacred sites. Even a dogmatic atheist is drawn to some place that emanates beauty and peace. We do not know why a particular place becomes a focus of the numinous for us. But we do know that we have a need for such places. Three of the world's great religions have a focus in Jerusalem: Judaism, Islam and Christianity. Islam has its Mecca and the Haj, but it still looks to Jerusalem.

**Bishop Arthur Jones**

**Your prayers are asked in our healing ministry for** Beryl Tanner, JPeter, Bonnie SyCip, Carlyn-Fern Manning, Rom Vildzius, Loy Solasco, Aris Paraman, Isabel Yu, Johnny Manning Jr, Emerinciana Gatela, Fr. Gabriel Dimanche, Benjie Conzales, Jovel Llagas, Ted Whale, Carol Garcia, Richard Kendall, Diana Croyston, Merly Quiapos, Susan Dalmas, Helen Irvine, Ron Jacob, Carrie Angus, Suzanne Jacobson, Amy Gonzales, Janet Johnstone, Ema Duhaylongsod, Ron & Vera Thoburn, Nikolai Gordevich, Harriet Campbell-Wilson.

### **THIS WEEK:**

March 2 Tuesday.

- Bible Study, 10am

March 4 Thursday.

- Eucharist, 10am, Chapel.
- Bible Study, 7pm, Rectory

March 7 Sunday.

- Regular Sunday worship, 7:30 & 9:30
- Sunday School, 9:15



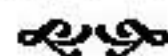
### **Next week's readings:**

Exodus 3:1-15

Psalm 103

1 Corinthians 10:1-13

Luke 13:1-9



	<b>Last Sunday</b>	<b>Year-to-date</b>	<b>2010 Budget</b>
Pledges	P60,400.00	P583,916.66	P3,900,000
Loose Plate	P19,135.00	P138,272.00	P940,000