

**Homily for March 26, 2020**  
**Fr. Drew Curry**

“Seek the praise that comes from the only God”

We are living in a terrible situation right now and many people need our prayers and concrete help. Presidents, governments, peoples, and nations all need our prayer. Watching the news, praying for others, taking care of the home- these things are all vital and good but we need to make sure that we are first being fed by God. Let's make sure that during this time we are climbing the mountain of the Lord to receive from the Lord so that we are doing all of our following along with the situation and doing all of our tasks in the love, joy, and peace of Christ.

Today, Jesus is telling us that we need to turn to God the Father's love for us. He said: “How can you believe, when you accept praise from one another and do not seek the praise that comes from the only God?” Let's take the risk of taking moments out of our day to withdraw from interactions with others in order to receive from God. Let's climb up the mountain like Moses to be with God. God praises us and loves us like a father or mother loves their children. We can enter into this praise that God has for us by reading stories of Jesus from the Gospels. Every word, miracle, or healing of Jesus is a manifestation of God's love for us. We can also just gaze upon an image of Jesus in the silence or even while listening to a praise song. Let's take time to experience God's praise and love for us and rejoice in it and then take the fruit of our encounter to others so that they can know the love of God that we have received.

Let us pray for each other and the world at this time!

**John 5:31-47**

Jesus said to the Jews: “If I testify on my own behalf, my testimony is not true. But there is another who testifies on my behalf, and I know that the testimony he gives on my behalf is true. You sent emissaries to John, and he testified to the truth. I do not accept human testimony, but I say this so that you may be saved. He was a burning and shining lamp, and for a while you were content to rejoice in his light. But I have testimony greater than John's. The works that the Father gave me to accomplish, these works that I perform testify on my behalf that the Father has sent me. Moreover, the Father who sent me has testified on my behalf. But you have never heard his voice nor seen his form, and you do not have his word remaining in you, because you do not believe in the one whom he has sent. You search the Scriptures, because you think you have eternal life through them; even they testify on my behalf. But you do not want to come to me to have life.

“I do not accept human praise; moreover, I know that you do not have the love of God in you. I came in the name of my Father, but you do not accept me; yet if another comes in his own name, you will accept him. How can you believe, when you accept praise from one another and do not seek the praise that comes from the only God? Do not think that I will accuse you before the Father: the one who will accuse you is Moses, in whom you have placed your hope. For if you had believed Moses, you would have believed me, because he wrote about me. But if you do not believe his writings, how will you believe my words?”