

Ash wednesday March 6th 2019

Make I preach this short sermon in the Presence of God .Amen .

Ash wednesday is the day we start to think about our sin .It's time to get real .

In a Jesus society you repent of your sins every sunday .

In a Jesus society you repent not by feeling bad ,but by thinking differently .

Remember when the Woman who had committed adultery was to be stoned to death, so to uphold the law of Moses , Jesus says to the self righteous gloating men all set to stone this woman to her death :

" let anyone amongst you ,who is without sin ,cast the first stone at her "

Jesus had made them stop ,look at their sin and suddenly the men confronted by their own sins put the stones down and walked away .

They had been made to think differently ,to see we all sin .

Jesus then tells the woman " go and sin no more"

This woman has now to go, and think differently about her way of life .

So today we come before God , we are bringing before him all our sins, also the secret sins we have committed that we are too ashamed to publicly confess ,these are the ones we kept to ourselves ,we may ask God on a daily basis to forgive us , but this is where by receiving this ash cross on our head we are acknowledging this deep rooted sin and the sins we commit daily .

By getting real we are called to think differently ,to realise we are not alone ,therefore we really shouldn't judge others .

We are being called back by God by his grace and his forgiveness .

By receiving the imposition of the ashes upon our fore head in the shape of a cross is saying to everyone ,I have sinned and the ash cross also ,is telling every one that I too have hidden sins but Gods knows what these are ,they

maybe hidden from you but not from God, as he knows all the secrets of our hearts .

This Ash cross is outward sign of your sin ,for this Ash cross can only be worn by you ,you are the one bringing your sin before god ,it will be you who receives his forgiveness for the sins you have committed .

We need this time to get real and admit we have sinned, especially the sins we keep hidden as these can create a burden of guilt we carry around with us .

By receiving this Ash cross it is not only a sign of our repentance ,but of our committment to think differently and as we wipe this cross from our forehead to go out and lives our lives differently .

To let go of these sins and to live this lentern time thinking and reflecting on the grace of God and that of his son Jesus Christ and of all they do for us .

This is a time to get real, to grow our personal relationship with God , to feel his love and also that of his son Jesus .This lentern time is after all leading us to the time when Jesus

took upon himself the sins of the whole world
to bring us back to his father in heaven .

So get real use this time to examine
yourself ,your sins , and how you can think
differently in the future and help you wear your
Ash Cross in a true commitment of your faith .
Amen .