

# Lenten Reflection

Friday, Fifth Week of Lent April 7, 2017



By Sister Veronica Gumja Kim, CDP

Open the Door, Change our Heart.

The life of Christ is a gift for us because He gives us abundant life and more strength in God, especially in Lent. This season invites us to strongly reflect on our lives through the life of our Christ, how we live together with one another in this day as His disciples. Lent is a hope in preparing for the joyful celebration of the Resurrection of Christ, together as people of our God. Lent is also a blessed season to pay attention to our journey on how to walk with God. We learn how to experience God's presence with others because they are a gift to us as the sheep was to the good shepherd.

In the scripture, John expresses that, "Jesus is the door and good shepherd for us" (John, 10: 9, 11). He tells us, "I am the good shepherd.... I lay down my life for the sheep. And I have other sheep that are not of this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd" (John, 10:14-16).

I challenge us to ask ourselves some questions: Can we be a good door to one another? Can we live together even though we are strangers? Can we be a good shepherd to those who are around us even though they are new faces? When we change our heart deeply in God, we can open the door of our heart and embrace people for who they are, regardless of if they are new faces or strangers, no matter different cultures, races, religions, perspective thoughts, and etc.

Pope Francis says in his message of His Holiness for Lent 2017, "Lent is a new beginning, a path leading to the certain goal of Easter, Christ's victory over death. This season urgently calls us to conversion. Christians are asked to return to God 'with all their hearts' (Joel 2:12)". When we listen to God's voice with an open heart to what God wants to say us, we can remember strongly what we have to do for one another in our daily lives. To convert our heart and return to God with our heart, it gives us abundant life as the witness of God's presence and providence around us. Let us embrace all people who are different with us!

*"Everyone Smiles in the Same Language!"*  
- La Roche College Asian Club motto

