

FREE Evangelization Inserts for Bulletins Newsletters & Websites

3rd Sunday in Lent
March 3-4, 2018

Note that these reflections can be found in
Word and pdf at
www.catholichawaii.org/inserts

Questions, Comments Suggestions?
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Living Catholic in the 808: Encountering the Marginalized Christ

Reflections by Pope Francis
Reprinted from the
CRS Rice Bowl
Community Reflections

“The Christian ideal will always be a summons to overcome suspicion, habitual mistrust, fear of losing our privacy, all the defensive attitudes which today’s world imposes on us.

Many try to escape from others and take refuge in the comfort of their privacy or in a small circle of close friends, renouncing the realism of the social aspect of the Gospel. For just as some people want a purely spiritual Christ, without flesh and without the cross, they also want their interpersonal relationships provided by sophisticated equipment, by screens and systems which can be turned on and off on command.

Meanwhile, the Gospel tells us constantly to run the risk of a face-to-face encounter with others, with their physical presence which challenges us, with their pain and their pleas, with their joy which infects us in our close and continuous interaction. True faith in the incarnate Son of God is inseparable from self-giving, from membership in the community, from service, from reconciliation with others.”
The Joy of the Gospel, 88

Question: *Fear, prejudice, ignorance, uncertainty—these are some of the things that keep us from encountering the marginalized Christ. Reflect on what prevents you from going to the margins. How can you overcome these obstacles?*

Prayer: God of all people, inspire us to go to the margins and struggle with injustice.