



REBUILD *this* TEMPLE

DAY 2

M O N D A Y , M A R C H 1 0 , 2 0 2 5

THE REALITY OF LOVE

Lent is about one thing: Love. God is love. This truth, drawn from the very essence of God. It is not merely an attribute of God or something He occasionally does; it is the core of who He is. As we delve into this mystery, let us reflect on how this understanding transforms our relationship with Him and with each other.

The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* beautifully reminds us: “God’s very being is love” (no. 221). Unlike human love, divine love is infinite, unconditional, and immutable. When we say “God is love,” we recognize that His love is not contingent upon our actions or merits. It is a constant and enduring presence that sustains us. This love is the ultimate revelation of God’s identity and His abiding desire for our good.

Saint Thomas Aquinas provides us with a timeless definition of love: “To love is to will the good of the other.” This is precisely how God interacts with us. His love moves beyond affection or benevolence; it is an unwavering commitment to our ultimate happiness and eternal well-being. God, in His perfect love, always wills what is best for us, leading us on a path to fulfillment and sanctity, even when the journey seems challenging.

Because God loves us, He sees us as we are and simultaneously as we could be. His divine gaze perceives our potential, our beauty, and the goodness within us, often hidden beneath the layers of our human frailty. God’s love is transformative, calling us to become the best version of ourselves in His sight. He is the divine sculptor, who, with gentle hands, shapes and refines us, patiently working to reveal the masterpiece He envisions.

In reflecting on God’s boundless love, we turn to the words of Fr. Peter van Breemen, S.J.: “We all need love, but we all need more than we deserve.” This profound insight captures the essence of divine grace. God loves us not in proportion to our worthiness, but beyond all measure. His love is a free, undeserved gift epitomized in Christ’s sacrifice. God’s love remains unwavering, even in our failings. This love inspires our hearts, calling us to repentance and deeper communion with Him. In embracing this love, we are transformed, compelled to reflect His boundless, forgiving love to the world.

G O I N G D E E P E R

Take an extra 15 minutes for prayer today. Begin by reading Isaiah 43:1-7. Read it once to familiarize yourself with the text. Then, read it a second time, slowing down to focus on the word or phrase that resonates with you. Read it a third time, again slowly, and see if the same word or phrase still speaks to you. Finally, have a conversation with God about how this word or phrase relates to your life. Take a moment to listen and invite God to speak to you.