

3rd Sunday in Lent - March 23, 2025
Homily by Bp. Romie- Jun Peñalosa

I remembered many years ago, I was still in Antique. I had to buy groceries and food from the market to feed the family.

I only had 500 pesos. Yun lang talaga yung pera ko. May araw talaga na yung natitira sa'yo, yun lang talaga. 500 pesos, groceries and pamalengke.

So, I would choose what is very important. Pag konti yung pera mo, piliin mo yung pinaka-importante. Okay?

Yung kailangan talaga. And minsan, ginagawa ng Diyos sa atin. He just gives us this much of resources so that you will learn to use your common sense.

Because there are many things in life that we try to acquire na hindi naman natin kailangan.

So, with 500 pesos, I went to the grocery. Umikot ako doon. Ang dami kong gustong bilhin. Gusto kong bumili ng peanut butter. Paborito ko yan sa tinapay. But if I buy that, then I cannot buy milk anymore for the children. Hindi na ako makabili ng gatas para sa mga bata.

So, umikot ako ng umikot. Yan ang problema pag konti yung pera mo, matagal ka sa grocery. Kasi ikot ka ng ikot, nag-iisip ka kung ano lang talagang pwede mong bilhin.

So, I bought some milk. Nakabili ako ng milk and some other things na kailangan sa bahay.

When I got to the counter, nun nandun ako sa counter, when I was about to pay, nung magbabayad na ako, nakita ko sa cashier na medyo lumampas ng 500 yung binili ko.

So, iniisip ko na ako nakakahiya kasi babawasan mo yung binili mo, diba? Hilalagay mo doon sa tabi.

When I was about to pay, my bill is 500 plus. I only have 500 pesos. Wala na akong pamalengke kasi naobos sa grocery.

Kasi bumili ng gatas, bumili nito, bumili nito. And so, in other words, sumobra yung bili ko kaysa dala kong pera.

So, nung nakita ko, hindi ko alam kung paano ko sabihin sa cashier.

Before I could speak to the cashier, nabawasan, nung dinukot ko yung pera ko to pay, ang sabi ng cashier sa akin,

It's already paid for, sir. Bayad na po yan. Sabi ko, there must be a mistake.

Sabi niya, hindi po, bayad na yan.

Sabi ko, sino nagbayad? Hindi po pinapasabi.

So, I tried to look around. Tinitingnan ko sa palibot kung sino ang nagbayad.

Ayaw sabihin ng cashier kung sino ang nagbayad. Sabi niya, dalhin mo na lang yan. Bayad na po yan.

I looked around. Tinitingnan ko. Yun na nga, gusto mo talagang magpasalamat dun sa tao.

Wala ko nakita kundi isang matandang babae na nakasmile sa akin.

So, nung nakita ko siya, lumapit ako sa kanya. Sabi ko lang sa kanya, thank you po.

And that's all I said to her.

Now, she did not confirm kung siya ang nagbayad. Kung hindi naman siya nagbayad, magtataka yun ba't nag-thank you ako.

Anyway, I share that with you because our first reading today, itong challenge ni Lord.

First reading natin. Sabi niya, you come. You come to me. Come close to me.

And you buy bread without money.

When that happened to me, this is the scripture that came to my head. I will buy bread with no money.

So every time I go out, since that time nag-grocery ako, yan ang pumapasok sa isip ko.

I'm going to buy food without money. Pero hindi na po na ulit yun. Once lang yun.

But it became alive to me that God can provide for you in so many ways.

He can provide you with money already. So you would have the capacity to buy the things you need.

Sometimes walang pera, but don't worry because God can still provide you with the things that you need.

You can buy bread without money.

In our world today, it's impossible. But with God, nothing is impossible.
Itong sinasabi sa Old Testament reading natin.

God was challenging Israel, bakit kayo lumalayo sa akin? Why are you running away from me?

You come to me. Come to me because I can provide for you.

I am your life and when you come to me, I will provide for you. I'll take care of you.

And too often times, hindi natin iniisip yan.

And I hope that this season of Lent, mag-iisip na tayo.

Has God ever failed you?

Yes, may araw na walang tinapay. May araw na walang pagkain.

Pero nagutom ka ba?

Nanghihina ka na ba ngayon dahil walang pagkain? God will always provide. Amen?

God invites us to come to Him, to return to Him because in God, we have life.

We have His provision. We are assured of His blessing.

Wag kayo matakot.

The second reading is the opposite of that.

Kinikwento ni St. Paul. Sabi niya,

Our fathers, he was talking to the Israelites before them.

Sabi niya, they crossed the Red Sea. They were all baptized.

The crossing of the Red Sea is their baptism.

In other words, they are now part of God's family.

How do we become part of God's family? Through the sacrament of baptism.

The Israelites in the Old Testament, they passed through the Red Sea and they were baptized in God.

What else?

They partake of God's provision.

The manna.

Palaging may manna, araw-araw, God would provide for them.

God has given them the bread of heaven and they also drink from the spiritual rock.

There was a drink given to them to refresh them, to rejuvenate them, to strengthen them.

God was faithful in providing for them.

And St. Paul said, you know, they had everything that we have today.

We are baptized in Christ. We are part of God's family.

We partake of the Eucharist every Sunday and for some people it's every day.

We partake of the bread from heaven and the water, the wine, the blood of our Lord.

We partake of that. God feeds us. God provides for us.

But then St. Paul, St. Paul said, but not all of them were able to enter the promised land.

Could it be possible that we Christians, we are baptized, we are part of God's family,

we partake from the same table, we do the Eucharist, and still we will not make it to heaven?

Is it possible?

Well, this is what St. Paul is saying, these things that happened to Israel, it happened to teach you as an example.

We are being taught the experience of Israel when they kept on rejecting everything that God is giving them.

The blessing of God to them, instead of bringing the people closer to God because of His blessing,

they engaged in so many things, in sexual immorality.

They engaged in a lot of things, they engaged in idolatry.

But this is what I saw as really bad and very bad.

And sometimes if we are not aware of it, this is also what we are doing to God.

God kept on providing for them. God kept on giving.

God kept on providing for them. God kept on blessing them.

But they kept on grumbling and murmuring against God.

And because of that, a destroying angel came and destroyed them, killed them all.

It was not God who killed them. It was not God who killed them.

But you see, every time we reject God's invitation, we open ourselves to the

enemy.

Inasmuch as God wants to protect us, inasmuch as God would like to save us, but if we keep on rejecting God in our life, we have an enemy.

There is an enemy of our soul who is always watching us and waiting for an opportunity to destroy us.

Saint Paul said this was written, itong nangyari sa Israel, this was written as an example for us.

An example that we could learn from them.

This Sunday, we are going to talk about repentance.

Repentance is not just about turning away from sin.

Although kasama yan, we have to turn away from our sins.

Itong kinikwento sa gospel natin. You know, backtrack lang tayo ng konti.

When we started in Lent, the first day was Ash Wednesday.

I said that Lent is a time of establishing spiritual disciplines in our life that would help us on our journey.

Sa mundong ibabaw na to, tayo po'y naglalakbay lang.

We are still on a journey.

And the journey may be long and tedious,

but the Lord has given us the spiritual disciplines to help us to build our character

so that we will be able to endure the journey and finally enter into the rest that God has in store for us.

We are not designed by God to die along the way.

Talagang ang disendyo ng Diyos sa buhay natin na matatapos natin yung journey natin.

We were designed. God provides for everything God gives us.

But we need on our part to establish the disciplines that the Lord is teaching us.

Kaya nung Ash Wednesday, we started with the discipline of prayer, fasting, and giving.

Ang tanong ko lang sa inyo, how are you doing?

Kumusta na yan? Baka nakalimutan na yun.

You have to cultivate that discipline in us.

We have to really establish ourselves in those disciplines.

Spend extra time in prayer this season of Lent.

So that pag natapos yung Lent, your prayer life would have improved.

Amen?

Practice fasting, denying yourself.

Because it's so hard to follow Christ if you don't learn to deny yourself.

Sabi ni Jesus, anyone who comes after me, the first thing he does is deny yourself.

And there are many Christians, there are many Christians today who would never, never deny themselves.

That's why we struggle.

Ang hirap sumunod kay Lord.

Ang hirap talaga maging Krisyano. Bakit mahirap?

You're struggling with it because you are not willing to deny yourself.

Palagi ako, ako ang masusunod.

And Jesus Christ was saying, you are tired and heavily laden.

Now you come to me and I will give you rest.

Why? Because my yoke is easy, my burden is light.

The things that weigh us down is not what God is giving to us.

The things that weigh us down in our life are the things that we put on ourselves.

Kasi talagang inuuna natin ang sarili natin.

Amen?

Sabi nga ng iba, ang dali lang naman magdoktor.

Bakit? Mag-aral ka lang. Tama.

E bakit nagiging complicated sa ibang estudyante?

Kasi araw-araw nagpa-party din.

Araw-araw lumalabas din.

Ang hirap talaga. Bishop, ang hirap talaga.

Ang hirap mag-aral. Bakit mahirap pag-aral?

E gabi-gabi nagpa-party.

Paano ka makapag-aral?

Because you are not willing to deny yourself.

Part of your journey to become a good doctor is you have to study well.

To prepare your mind to study.

Kaya minsan may mga tao pag may sakit, tinatanong yung doktor eh.

San ka ba nag-aral?

San ka ba nagtapos?

Ako ang gusto ko lang malaman sa isang doktor, hindi kung saan siya nag-aral.

Ang gusto ko talaga malaman sa doktor, ito lang, nag-aral ka ba?

Kasi ang hirap naman yung pabuksan mo yung bituka mo, pabuksan mo yung tiyan mo sa taong hindi nga alam kung anong gagawin niya.

Diba?

It's the same thing. That's why we need to have those two things.

The other discipline is giving. Oh, nako.

Like I've said, giving is not about, you know, it's not about just helping people.

It's not about letting go of your possession.

Giving is about loving.

Because loving means that you will the good of the other person.

Kung hindi tayo mag-ingat, ang iniisip natin, ang sarili lang natin palagi.

That's why we are so unhappy.

Maraming taong malungkot ang buhay dahil ang iniisip sarili lang.

You can never be happy if you have not learned to love others.

Amen?

May mga tao na nagkukulong lang, ay nasaktan kasi ako eh.

Ayoko na magmahal ng tao, bibili na lang ako ng aso.

Mas masarap mahalin ng aso, hindi ka tinatraidor ng aso.

Tama ba? Hindi.

Tama ba? Hindi.

Yung aso, pag hindi mo pinakain, okay lang.

Pag pinakain mo, tuwang-tuwa siya.

Yung tao, pag hindi mo pinakain, magrereklamo yan.

Kaya maraming tao ngayon, ayaw na nilang makihalubilo sa ibang tao.

Ayaw nilang magkaroon ng pamilya, ayaw nilang magkaroon ng community.

Anong gusto niya? Nasa bahay lang ako, kasama ko yung aso ko.

And that life will not enrich you.

That kind of life will never bring you to the full potential, to realize your full potential.

It will never bring you to complete joy and happiness.

Because you need to love.

It's not good for the man to be alone.

We need each other.

That's why ang sabi dito, you give.

Because give is the act of loving another person.

The first Sunday of Lent,

the first Sunday of Lent, what did we learn?

Anong disiplinang?

The first discipline we learned in the first Sunday of Lent is to enter the desert.

Si Jesus, after He was baptized, He went to the desert.

We have to get rid of things that distract us

and so that we can focus on God.

Maraming bagay na nagdi-distract sa buhay natin.

We even create our own distractions.

That's why we enter the deserts of our hearts.

Maraming tao, hindi na pumapasok sa puso nila.

Nandito na lang sa isip palagi.

Kaya pag nandito ka lang sa isip mo palagi,

ang iniisip mo lang yung anong ulam mamaya?

San ako pupunta?

San ako maliligo?

Sino kasama ko?

We don't ask questions like what is my purpose in life?

Why am I here?

Why does God love me so much?
We don't ask those things because those things are in the heart.
And many of us don't want to enter the heart
because natatakot ang pumasok sa puso natin.
Because minsan, pag pumasok ka sa puso mo,
dun mo makikita mas mahal mo yung kasalanan kay sa Diyos.
We don't want to confront ourselves.
I love sin more than I love God.
That's why most people don't enter their hearts anymore.
So magpaparty-party na lang,
pasyal-pasyal na lang,
so that you distract yourself.
Lent is a time to get rid of all the distractions for a while
and begin to enter your heart.
Because the things that makes you unhappy in life
are not caused by the outward things.
Hindi ka malungkot dahil wala kang pera.
Hindi ka malungkot dahil inaway ka ng neighbor mo.
Alam mo bakit ka malungkot sa buhay mo?
Eto kasi.
Nandito ang problema sa loob.
Amen?
That's why the first discipline we learned in this first Sunday of Lent
is that we have to get rid of the distraction and enter your heart.
Last Sunday we talked about,
what did we talk about?
The discipline of always, always choosing the narrow door.
Kasi ang buhay natin, pag hindi tayo mag-ingat,
ang hinahabol natin sa buhay minsan hindi yung tama,
kundi yung komportable.
Amen?
We like in our lazy nature,
tamad tayo.
We want things easy.
We want to be comfortable all the time.
Pinaglalaman natin yung convenience ng buhay natin.
Walking with the Lord will never be comfortable.
Kaya maraming kristyano iniwan na nila yung pamilya nila,
iniwan nila yung ministry nila,
iniwan nila yung simbahan,
because it's not comfortable.
Bakit?
Kasi nasanay sa buhay na komportable lang.
Pipiliin ko lang yung komportable lang.
Pipiliin ko lang yung komportable lang.
You understand what I'm saying?
That's why we have to learn to enter the narrow door.
The narrow door is so difficult,
that's why it's rare for people to be excellent in life.
Because excellence, excellence is difficult.
To be excellent in the family, it's difficult.
It's so easy to set rules only sa pamilya.
Itong gawin nyo, itong gawin nyo, itong gawin nyo,
and you think the family life will be excellent.
No, it cannot be.
It's much more than that.
You have to give it time and sacrifice and suffering
to be excellent in the family life.
Also in the ministry.
Also in your career.
Alam mo kung madali lang,
madali lang yung career at saka business,
di dapat lahat ng tao mayaman na.
Madali lang eh.

But success in business is so rare, why?
Because it's so difficult.
If you find someone excellent in the business,
it's because that someone is willing
to go through the difficulties of career and business.
Kasi kung madali lang yan, it will be common to everyone.
Those are the disciplines.
And today we're going to talk of another discipline, repentance.
Repentance.
The problem with repentance today is just like in our gospel today.
We don't see the need to repent.
Kasi yung iba mas masama kayo sa atin.
And we feel na pag may nakita kang tao mas masama sayo,
hindi na ako kailangan mag-repent.
Mas magaling ako dyan.
You know, ito yung sinasabi ng mga tao doon kay Jesus.
Sabi niya, Lord, meron mga Galileans na matay.
They died.
Pilate killed them.
And mixed their blood in their offerings.
Are they really bad sinners?
O, ganyan ka agad.
Pag may nakita tayo na aksidente na tao,
ay talagang masama kasing ugalin yan.
Buti na lang ako, hindi ako ganyan kakasama.
Kaya hindi talaga ako ma-aksidente.
Uy.
Diba?
Sometimes bad things happen,
not only to bad people,
but bad things happen also to
good people.
Kaya yung tinanong nila si Lord,
sabi niya, Lord, talaga mga masasama ba ito?
Pinatay, they were murdered.
In broad daylight, they were murdered.
So therefore, these men are very bad people.
They're sinners.
And Jesus said, no.
They are not worse
than anyone else.
But if you do not repent,
you will suffer likewise.
So the issue there is not
sino mas masama.
Mahilig tayo sa ganyan.
Instead of taking responsibility for our sins,
we always blame it on other people.
Sinisisi natin ibang tao.
I know a man
na talaga ngayon,
nagihhirap siya.
I was talking,
sabi niya,
ganito lang naman ako kasi iniwan ako ng tatay ko.
Nagdadrugs ako kasi iniwan ako ng tatay ko.
Nanginom ako,
nangbababae ako kasi iniwan ako ng tatay ko.
Lahat ng kapalpakan niya
sa buhay kasalanan ng tatay niya.
Ang tanong ko lang sa kanya,
sabi ko,
oo nga, may kasalanan yung tatay mo sayo.
Pero anong kasalanan mo?

Naniniwala ka ba?
Wala kang kasalanan?
Kung nagdadrugs ka,
hindi na yan kasalanan ng tatay mo.
Ikaw ang gumagawa niyan.
Amen?
If you leave,
you leave your family behind.
Kasi yung tatay ko noon,
Bishop, yung tatay ko noon,
iniwan kami.
Kaya ngayon, Bishop,
ito na rin ang nangyayari sa akin.
Iiwan ko na rin yung pamilya ko.
Iiwan, iniwan noon.
Sana ngayon, hindi ko rin iiwan yung asawa ko.
Ha?
Kasalanan ng tatay mo na iniwan ang pamilya kayo.
Pero kasalanan mo yan.
Hindi kasalanan ng tatay mo.
Iiwan mo rin yung pamilya mo.
Do you understand what I'm saying?
We always blame others.
Mas maraming kasalanan to.
And because nakikita mo yung kasalanan ng ibang tao,
okay ka lang.
And Jesus Christ said, no, no, no.
Unless you repent,
you turn away from your sin also,
you cannot.
It will be difficult.
You will perish just like them.
Then another asked him,
yung mga taong nahulugan na aksidente,
hindi sila pinatay ha, aksidente,
nahulugan sila ng building,
namatay sila, 18 men.
Ang sabi naman nila,
ayun siguro, mas worse sinners yun,
mas maraming kasalanan yun.
And you know, Jesus Christ said,
you cannot turn away
because there are worse and bad sinners.
But this is the lesson.
If you do not repent,
you will also suffer just like them.
Then he taught the parable of the fig tree.
Tinuro niya.
So the first lesson we learned from the gospel today
is that stop blaming others
for your own mistakes and failure.
You have to take responsibility for yourself.
Amen?
You can never repent
from your sin na hanggang ngayon,
hindi mo inaako.
Again, let me repeat that.
You can never repent
from a sin
that you do not
take responsibility for.
Paano kang mag-repent?
Eh walang kong kasalanan eh.
Kasalanan ng tatay ko yan.

So you will never repent.
You will stay that way.
Amen?
So that was the first lesson we've learned.
And the second lesson in the gospel today
teaches us
that repentance is not just
turning away from sin.
Yes, that's part of it.
We turn away from sin.
Because sometimes there is a way
that seems right for you
but in the end, it will lead to your death.
It will lead to your destruction.
Talaga hindi ako magpapatawad, Father.
Kasi yung tao na yan talaga,
pag pinatawad mo yan,
pag mamalaki niya, nanaisahan niya ako.
So I'll never forget.
Now, it seems like it's the right thing to do.
It seems it's right.
But you know what?
Nadaan na yan,
it will destroy you.
That's why we need to
turn away from our sin.
But more than turning away from your sin,
you have to, in repentance,
turn towards God.
Yung word na repentance,
it came from the Greek word
metanoia.
Metanoia means having a change of mind.
A change of heart.
Yan ang ibig sabihin ng metanoia.
Repentance really
comes from within you.
It's not just turning away from sin.
Ayaw ko na to,
nagsasawan ako sa kasalanan na to.
But you have to turn
away from sin, yes,
but you also have to turn
to God.
Amen?
The parable of the fig tree.
There was a landowner
who planted a tree
and it was not bearing fruit.
And so the owner of the tree,
the land, sabi niya,
for three years I've been coming back here,
hindi pa nagbubunga niyan.
Lahat nagkasama niyang kahoy,
may bunga na ito,
for three years hindi pa rin nagbubunga.
Then the owner said,
why continue with this kind of tree?
Cut it down.
Because it is consuming
the nutrients of the ground.
Pagkita niyo ha?
God has prepared everything
for the tree

to bear fruit.
May nutrients na yung lupa.
Kaya nga yung ibang kahoy
nagbubunga na.
Etong kahoy na to,
pareho lang naman sila,
humihigup sa nutrients ng lupa,
ayaw talaga magbunga.
So the problem
is not so much with
the soil and the nutrients,
the problem is with the tree itself.
Kaya sabi niya,
putulin mo na to.
Then the gardener,
eto sabi ng gardener,
Lord, wag muna.
Sabi niya,
not yet, don't cut it down yet.
I will dig around
this tree.
I will make the ground
soft for this tree.
Papalambutin ko yung lupa
dito sa kahoy na to
kung saan siya nakatanim.
I will make the ground soft,
I will dig around it,
and I will fertilize the ground.
You see, that's what happens to us
every time we sin,
every time we walk
in the path of sin.
God is not there
to strike and kill you.
Hindi ganyan ang Diyos natin.
God is a God
who will work it out
for you.
God does not give up on us
when we make mistakes,
when we sin.
He does not just make
retribution at papatayin ka ng Diyos.
Minsan, yan ang iniisip natin sa Diyos.
Nagaaantay lang siya,
magtamali ka, titirahin ka na niya
kasi gahalit siya sayo.
That's why before we leave,
what does the bishop say?
What does the bishop remind you?
Okay?
Remember that God loves you.
And because He loves you so much,
God is not angry at you.
Now, He may be angry
with the things you do,
but not at you.
He loves you.
Love is not
easily angered.
He loves you so much,
He's not angry at you.
He has forgiven you

of your sins.
Repentance is not about
just the forgiveness of sins.
Kasi minsan iniisip natin,
talagang big deal
yung kasalanan natin sa Diyos.
Talaga, yun ang pinaka-main issue,
yung kasalanan mo.
Ang Diyos, pag nakita ka,
yung kasalanan mo talaga,
yung big deal sa Kanya.
You know, our sins,
yung mga pinaggagawa natin kasalanan,
the things that we do and we do not do,
the mistakes, the sins that we have,
it does not intimidate God at all.
Hindi na siya,
hindi nagagalit ang Diyos
dahil may kasalanan kang ginawa.
Hindi siya nagagalit sa'yo.
It does not intimidate Him.
His love will always be greater
than your sin.
But why does God encourage us
to repent?
Itong problema,
itong concern ng Diyos,
hindi yung kasalanan mo.
Bakit mo pinapatuloy
at ini-embrace yung kasalanan mo?
Bakit mas mahal mo yan?
That sin will destroy your life.
How come you embrace it?
How come you love it
more than anything else?
Bakit mahal na mahal mo yung kasalanan mo?
Yan ang concern ng Diyos.
Yung kasalanan natin,
alam niya na yan.
He already knows the weaknesses
of each and every one of us.
Hindi ko pag ginagawa yung kasalanan ko,
alam na ng Diyos.
When I was elected
to become the bishop,
kinausap ako ng mga obispo,
itong tanong nila sa akin,
so would you consider
the office of the bishop?
I said no.
At merong isang obispo,
tinanong ako,
bakit ayaw mo maging bishop?
Kasi ang dami kong kasalanan.
Para sa akin,
yung isang obispo,
dapat walang dungis ng kasalanan yan.
I look at the bishop as,
you know, he's so perfect,
he's so pure,
he's like an angel.
So sabi ko,
hindi ako pwede maging bishop
because I was living in sin

before.
And maybe until now,
I do not know.
So I cannot be the bishop.
At ito, sabi ng mga obispo,
akala mo ba hindi alam ng Diyos
nung pinili ka ng Diyos,
hindi niya alam na may kasalanan ka?
Of course, God knows
I am a sinful person,
but why did He choose me?
Why would God choose
a person like me?
Every time we celebrate the Eucharist,
paghahawak ko yung bread,
gusto kong umiyak
because I'm not supposed to hold that.
Because of my sin,
here comes God,
nagpapahawak ang Diyos sa akin.
Ang dami ng kasalanan.
Hindi nga tayo nagsishake hands
sa tao na galing sa Banyo eh.
Diba?
Hindi nyo makipagshake hands.
Saan ka galing?
Kaya lalabas ko lang sa Banyo.
Good morning, sabi mo.
Sige, okay lang.
You would not touch the hand
of a person who is so dirty,
diba?
And here I am,
every Sunday,
I get to hold
Jesus in my hand.
Nagpapahawak siya sa akin.
Lord, ang dumi ko.
I am most unworthy
to ask me to touch him.
Amen?
Amen.
God already knew
how sinful I am
before he called me.
And when he called me
to serve him,
he knows every sin
that I have done,
the sins that I have done today,
and the things
that I will continue to do.
God knows until when.
He already knows that.
But he calls you
and invites you to serve
because alam ng Diyos
that will bring fulfillment
and joy in my life.
Yan ang gusto niya sa akin.
Now, having that in mind,
with that in mind,
what does it create in me?
Anong nangyayari sa akin?

Pag naalala ko yan,
it creates in me
a desire to be with this God.
Hindi ko napapakawalan
tong Diyos na to.
Mamimili pa ako
ng ibang susundan?
Will I still choose other things?
Will I choose my sin?
Will I love my sin
and continue to walk in sin?
Not anymore.
Not with this kind of God.
That is what repentance is.
It's not just about
getting rid of your sin.
I'm bad.
Ayoko na maging bad.
No.
Repentance is
I want to be with God.
Gusto ko kasama si Lord.
Gusto ko hawak-hawak
kaming dalawa.
That's what repentance is.
That is what God wants from us.
It's not about just forgiving your sins.
God wants to be friends with you.
God is so in love
with you that He wants
to be with you all the time.
Yun ang ibig sabi ng repentance.
And today,
we reflect on this
and meditate on this.
In your own life,
sa sarili mong buhay,
how many times have we
run away from God?
And every time we run away from God,
we will always choose a path
that will lead to death.
No matter how good it is.
Pag tinalikuran mo ang Diyos
at tatahak ka sa daan
na sa mata mo maganda,
kahit anong ganda niyan,
it will never bring you to life.
It will destroy you.
That's why the only way,
the only way
that we can be
living out
the best of our life,
potential of becoming
the best version of ourselves
is to
turn to God
and begin to walk
in that direction,
getting closer and closer
and closer to God
in your heart.
When you walk that way,

pag pinili mo yung daan na yan,
it may be difficult,
it may be tedious,
maraming pagsubok,
but you know what?
Ang dulo niyan,
ang dulo niyan
is always life
and excellence.
Everything you need,
lahat ng hinahanap mo sa buhay,
yung tua,
yung joy,
yung peace na hinahanap mo sa buhay mo,
yung pagmamahal na hinahanap mo,
nandyan sa daan na yan.
You cannot find it any other way,
but that's the way it is.
That's why the need for us
to repent,
not just turning away
from our sin,
but in our heart
and in our mind,
we begin to turn to God.
That's it.
Remember,
you are blessed.
So don't just be blessed,
be a blessing as well.
Amen.
Thank you.