



St. Matthew's Cathedral eNews

Christ + Compassion + Community

From the Dean

Disturb Us, Lord

Have mercy on me, O LORD, for I am in trouble;—Psalm 31:9

There are times when life gives us a wake-up call. This "wake-up call" can become a prod for us, maybe to change our life or a part of our life, what we have been doing poorly, to change an unhealthy habit pattern that has become ingrained, or to straighten up something that is amiss in our lives. We can't honestly say that God causes these things to happen, yet we know that God wants to use these detours to get us back on the main road.

Holy Week is a mini-wake-up call. It is a gentle reminder to us that sin is real and devastating and has real consequences. It is a further reminder that God's redemption is even greater than our sin. Here is a part of a poem that speaks to us of our human condition, written by Sir Francis Drake, English navigator and seaman (circa 1542-1598). Drake was the first Englishman to circumnavigate the globe and was instrumental in defeating the Spanish Armada.

Disturb Us, Lord

Disturb us, O Lord, when we are too well-pleased with ourselves:

When our dreams come true

Only because we have dreamed too little;

When we arrive safely

Only because we have sailed too close to the shore;

We are losing our thirst for more of God;

When in loving time, we have ceased to dream of eternity;

When in our desire to build on this earth

We have lost our vision of a new heaven.