

Have you ever wanted to be in two places at once? There's a movie you wanted to see playing at the same time as the big game you want to be at? And you're split between the two?

Or else in class, or at Mass ... and your thoughts are a million miles away?

In the readings today, there is a tension is between a worldly life of slavery to sin and the new life of freedom in God's law in Christ.

The Israelites grumbled, and so God gave them what they wanted – the opportunity to die in their sins in the desert. In the Gospel, Jesus tells the Pharisees that if they don't believe they will die in their sins and never see Him in glory.

During the week before Holy Week, we cover over all images. It would be nice to look at a crucifix ... but we are left with nothing to look at except the Stations of the Cross. We are forced to be here and now ... we are forced to look within our own hearts – no distractions.

And what do we see?

Is our heart undivided? Completely given over to Jesus Christ? Or are we split between two, three, or more desires and thoughts?

The Third Graders will be going to confession ... and we'll have a penance service on Thursday.

In confession, you accuse yourself of your sins. There is the temptation to talk about other people. It's easy to point the finger at someone else. But that's a distraction. In confession, you get to talk about your own shortcomings, failures, and faults ... the things that hurt other people ... the things that keep you from being focused 100% on God.

As we continue in this liturgy, and as we approach this altar to receive the Sacred Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Jesus Christ ... let us pray for an undivided heart ... focused on Jesus Christ ... and for the Light of the Holy Spirit ... to help us see ourselves as we truly are. And through the graces of the Eucharist and the other Sacraments ... may we enter more fully into this time of reflection on Jesus' sacrifice for us on the Cross.