

Born in Santa Monica, California on April 2, 1920 ... actor, writer, and producer Jack Webb became the signature voice on his own show titled *Dragnet*.

*Dragnet* began as a radio show in 1949, and then debuted on TV in 1951. You might remember the signature line at the beginning of episodes:

*The story you are about to hear is true. The names have been changed to protect the innocent.*

Webb wanted it to be as realistic and accurate as possible, and highlighted the drudgery and effort involved in police work. Webb's character became famous for his catch-phrase:

*All we want are the facts, ma'am.*

Today is the Third Sunday in Lent. And in the First Reading, we hear the reading of The Law – or as we know it, the Ten Commandments.

Oftentimes we mistake “The Law” for what we know as criminal law. Yet the fact is: the Law of God was given as a Sign of God's love for his people. Rather than serving as an oppressive tool to limit freedom, God's Law was put forth as a means of freeing His people from sin ... a way of liberation from the slavery to sin. Yet the Old Law alone was not able to effect this on its own.

In the Gospel story of the Cleansing of the Temple, Jesus prophesies His Resurrection publicly, yet He is misunderstood. Even the disciples missed the point and didn't realize what Jesus was talking about until after His own Resurrection.

Jesus came as the fulfillment of The Law, and through His saving Death on the Cross, and His Resurrection – all humanity is given access to

*the power of God and the wisdom of God.*

As we continue to move forward in our Lenten Journey, let us rely on the graces we received in our own Baptism, and through the manifold graces in the Blessed Sacrament of the Altar – the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Jesus Christ – may we be “*raised up*” with Christ on Easter Sunday.