

LaSalette reflection for the Third Sunday in Lent March 3,2024

Written by the National LaSalette Laity Board

It's almost Passover, large crowds gather in the temple area. The merchants have moved the market very close to the temple selling their animals required for sacrifice, they are price-gouging, even the poor for a couple of pigeons. Jesus comes upon this scene and becomes very angry at these abuses, he strongly admonishes them for disrespecting, "**My Father's House**". With these words he declares himself the "**Son of God**". The Jews challenge him, prove it! He responds, "destroy this temple and I will raise it in three days". They did not know he was referring to himself, being the temple and predicting his own death and resurrection, revealing his divinity.

This reading reminds me of another scene, when His Mother appears to two children at LaSalette, she weeps:

- for those who disrespect **Her Son**, "you swore and took my **Sons** name in vain",
- the church, "they go to mass only to make fun of religion."
- Lenten practices, "they go to the butcher shop like dogs".

These abuses are what cause her to weep. Even in her weeping she offers hope, predicting, "if they are converted". Hope is the message she asks us to share, "well my children, you will make this message known to all my people."

May both events remind us of the importance of church in our lives as we continue these days of Lent.

Be reconciled!