

La Salette reflection for the Fifth Sunday of Lent (March 17th, 2024)
Written by the National La Salette Laity Board

The message of La Salette and today's readings both hinge on the word "if". In the Gospel today Jesus explains to Philip and Andrew that "unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains just a grain of wheat; but **if** it dies, it produces much fruit". The wheat, in order to fulfill its true purpose, in order to be what God wants it to be, it must first stop being what it is and let God's plan unfold.

In the message Mary tells Maximum and Melanie that "**if** they [humankind] are converted, rocks and stones will turn into heaps of wheat, and potatoes will be self-sown in the fields". Wondrous things will happen if we are converted. For followers of Jesus, in order for us to fulfill our true purpose, in order to be what God wants us to be, we must stop being what we are and let God's plan unfold.

If we are converted tells us that we have the choice to follow God's merciful plan or not. So, today my prayer for all of us comes from today's psalm, that today and every day may each of us choose God's merciful plan and ask, "Create a clean heart in me O, God. Have mercy on me, O God, in your goodness".