

We all experience loss at various times in our lives. There is loss of our good name, loss of our reputation, loss of a job. We suffer the loss of friends, neighbors or co-workers who move away. And there is the permanent loss of a loved one in death.

Like us, Jesus experienced loss. His Dad, Joseph, died. His friend, Lazarus, died. His Apostle, Judas, betrayed Him. The head of the Apostles, Peter, denied knowing Him.

Today we hear in the Gospel: "Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted." Jesus gives us hope and encouragement in the midst of our losses.

Where are we mourning at this time in our life? Loss of good health? Loss of a pet? Loss of innocence?

Jesus reassures us that we will be comforted.

Is our mourning related to a loss of independence? A loss of trust? A loss of someone's life?

Jesus proclaims: "Blessed are you who mourn for you shall be comforted."

Jesus makes a promise to us. It's a promise of comfort. It is a hopeful promise, especially when we are hurting.

My sisters and brothers: As His disciples, we can trust the promise of Jesus, can't we?