



## Things to Ponder

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## Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

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Dear Parish Family,

Jesus left his native town of Nazareth to begin his public ministry near a cross-road of civilization in ancient times. The via mare (way to the sea) was a trade route that led from Damascus in Syria along the northern perimeter of the Sea of Galilee to the coast of Israel near present-day Haifa. This was to fulfill a prophecy of Isaiah, part of which we heard on Christmas Eve:

**“The people who walked in darkness  
have seen a great light...”  
(Isaiah 9, 1)**

Forty-four years ago today, the Supreme Court issued its infamous *Roe v. Wade* decision that made abortion available for almost any reason throughout the course of a pregnancy. Thousands of people will converge on Washington this Friday to rally against that decision. Many more will pray on that day which has been designated by the bishops as a Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children. Our challenge is to help people see the truth by inviting them into a personal relationship with the Lord Jesus, source of light and truth. Many continue to walk in darkness and fail to see the light at the end of the tunnel.

We Catholics come from many different ethnic backgrounds and adhere to varying political philosophies; but we must agree that our hope is rooted in the One who continues to invite us to follow Him. Thus, in the words of St. Paul: “be united in the same mind and in the same purpose.” (1 Corinthians 1, 10)

Yours in Christ,

*Father William Foley*

