



**Monday, March 23, 2020:
Monday of the Fourth Week of Lent**



Catholic Church

215 South 8th Street
Minneapolis, MN 55402

Good Morning!

Today we celebrate St. Toribio de Mogrovejo. Our readings come from Isaiah 65:17-21, Psalm 30 and John 4:43-54. We are in the fourth week of Lent. These last days, which seem like weeks, many have chosen to "shelter in place" for the good of ourselves and for the good of others. It is almost like God has given us a "time out" and sent us, the world, to our rooms to think about what we have done. It is not just us but the whole world is in "shelter in place." As we turn the page to today's readings great joy jumps out at us. Isaiah writes, "Thus says the Lord: Lo, I am about to create new heavens and a new earth; the things of the past shall not be remembered or come to mind. Instead, there shall be rejoicing and happiness in what I create." Who created the pandemic we are in now? Could it have been our own doing? Could God take what is happening and make it into something good? Jesus challenges the people, and us, in reaction to the royal official asking Jesus to heal his son who was near death, "Unless you people see signs and wonders, you will not believe." The royal official again says, "Sir, come down before my child dies." Jesus says, "You may go; your son will live." The child did live and all came to believe in Jesus. Use this time well to reflect on life in general. How are we living? What is the pace of life? Have we wandered too far for the Lord in our lives? Pray for people throughout the world who truly know suffering. Pray for children who may be caught in unhealthy situations, families under pressure, people losing hope. The Lord says in this new world, "No longer shall there the sound of weeping to be heard or the sound of crying." Let our mourning, worrying and anxiety be turned into dancing, "O Lord, my God, forever will I give you thanks."

I will try to record a daily Mass each day along with my reflection. You can find it at RevKev Reflects on YouTube or on Saint Olaf's website. Let us continue to pray for one another.

Peace,

RevKev

<http://www.usccb.org/>"I will praise you, Lord, for you have rescued me."