

From: St. Francis Episcopal Church vicar@stfrancisva.org
Subject: Getting Rid of Jesus
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To: Mcats2@aol.com

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St Francis



December 28, 2016

Getting Rid of Jesus

*When the wise men had departed, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you; for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him."
Matthew 2:13*

Herod

Herod was the ruler in Jerusalem at the time of the birth of Jesus. He was put there by the Roman Emperor. He was worried about being deposed, killed, or otherwise replaced. He became very worried about Jesus when the Magi showed up wanting to worship him. Herod was afraid of this newborn King. He lied to the Magi about wanting to worship Jesus also. The Magi tricked him and sneaked back to the east. Herod got so angry that he ordered all of the baby boys two years old and younger to be killed. He went to great lengths to get rid of Jesus.

And Us?

We may not be personally as vicious as Herod. Aren't you sometimes hoping Jesus will stop bothering you? Don't you think somewhere within your own heart that you would like to run your own life yourself and not have Jesus direct what you do? In other words, don't you sometimes, maybe often, want to be your own Lord instead of Jesus being your Lord? Maybe it's not so black and white for you. Maybe you are fine with following Jesus in one area of your life but not in others.

That's The Way It Is

I find that there are all kinds of areas in my life in which I prefer to be in charge. Jesus, however, wants to do something I could never do on my own power. He wants to redeem every area of my life, restore them all, and empower them all to extend His kingdom to others through me. The only way that happens is for me to continually grow into His likeness, dying to myself daily, and following as He leads. That way I become less like Herod and more like Jesus. How is God asking you to become more like Jesus today?

Coming Attractions

Tuesday, January 3, 2017 Learning Community at 6:15pm

Wednesday, January 4, 2017 Color Me Friends at 6:30pm. Contact Carol at carolsdream@gmail.com

Sunday, January 8, 2017 worship at 10:00am followed by pot luck

Wednesday, January 11, 2017

4:00pm Vestry Committee

6:30pm Theology on Tap contact Raichard at
richardandhedy@yahoo.com

7:00pm Caregiver's Support Group contact Susan at
n1placesusan@gamil.com

Please bring nonperishable food to worship to be distributed to the Food Pantry of the Goochland Free Clinic and Family Services

Centerville Circle of Prayer

For Air Specialists of Virginia, Paul Leslie, general manager, that business would increase and clients would have environmentally safe facilities.

The Diocese of Virginia

That our bishops, Michael, Shannon, Susan, and Ted would be filed with apostolic power.

Grace and Peace,
John Maher

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