

EPISODE 05 – Processions

1. Processions are perennial signs of our journey to heaven. What other signs are reminders that we are made for heaven?
 - This place I am on a journey to, heaven, what is it to me? There are many images in art, literature, scriptures, and such. Images which spark my imagination and fuel my faith, but I don't believe that any of these truly define heaven for me. Heaven is to be free of the trappings of this world, the temptations, the evil, the injustice, and all that distorts the love that God poured into His creation. Heaven is to be in the presence of love itself, where love reigns supreme. I imagine that this instance of creation in which I live and through which I journey is but a preview of the unlimited creativity and love of God.
 - So in this journey I assemble with the church and process to this destination we call heaven.
 - Other signs of our journey, our procession would be all those signs which show us living out our calling which is to love God first and foremost, and to love our neighbors as ourselves. Some of these many signs for me are:
 - Help given in any fashion and any means in support of our common pilgrimage, such as prayers, money, food, clothing, words of comfort, perhaps just a smile. Examples would be the St. Vincent de Paul Society, Food for the Poor, Catholic Charities.
 - Gatherings of family and friends to celebrate holidays, reunions, birthdays, anniversaries, and such.
2. Christians, like ancient Israel, journey not as individuals, but as a people. In the context of Exodus 15-20, what other similarities characterize this pilgrimage?
 - [Exodus 15-20](#)
 - Similarities are:
 - The songs and prayers we say when we are assembled for liturgy
 - When we suffer together through a time of testing, e.g. 911
 - When we receive together the body, blood, soul, and divinity of Jesus in the Eucharistic
 - When we offer our pain and suffering to the Lord and we find comfort in His love given to us in His words and His graces.
 - When we join with the Church throughout the world to combat evil and injustice
 - When we submit to the instruction and guidance of the Magisterium
 - When we renew our Baptismal promises in our assembly
 - When we acknowledge our common sinfulness and beg for the mercy and forgiveness of God