

Reflection

God, I pray for my
prayer life to become
vibrant and strong in
this season of Lent. I
pray that Your voice,
even though a whisper,
would ring loud and true
in my life. I pray for
the courage and boldness
to follow wherever You
lead, to love and serve
whomever and however
You invite me.

- Mariners Church Irvine

I have spent quite a bit of time searching recently, trying to prepare myself for Lent. I wasn't sure why I felt so adrift. Then, some of my former students started posting Mardi Gras pictures on FB. I lived in New Orleans for almost 30 years. Most people think of Mardi Gras as Fat Tuesday, the day before Ash Wednesday. But, actually, Mardi Gras is a season of a couple of weeks, not one day. The whole town comes together to parade and party for 2 full weeks. Everyone is family, everyone enjoys the color, music, and revelry of the "City that Care Forgot".

But dramatically, following Fat Tuesday's events, the town is nearly silent. The change is so dramatic! There is no more pageantry, no music and foreheads are marked with ashes. One is abundantly aware of the change. Maybe I am missing a bit of that---the dramatic shift. But I did find this prayer which struck a home in my heart. I think daily contemplation on this prayer and SILENCE so I can hear Him when He speaks should bring me right to the cross.



Blessings,
Rosemary Brant
Council President