

Fr. John Sassani
Homily Given on March 25, 2012
Fifth Sunday of Lent
Liturgical Year B

Some of you may be part of a family business, but probably most of us are not. If there was anything that could be considered a family business in my family, it would be medicine. Two uncles, an aunt, and my sister were all in medical fields. My uncle in Swampscott tried to lure me in. He gave me a job cleaning his office. He even had me observe the lab tech, hoping it would hook me. Obviously it didn't!

Jesus, on the other hand, joined the family business – not the carpentry that Joseph taught Him, but the work of salvation that He learned from His Father.

God the Father labored to bring about creation and to sustain it at every moment. Christ is at work to bring about salvation. Creation is beautiful, and yet it is flawed and, at times, dark. So are we. We are made in the image of God, and yet we are flawed.

The work of salvation is accomplished at a great cost. The Gospel compares it to a grain of wheat that, only after it falls to the ground and dies, can it bear great fruit. St. Paul in the second reading tells us that Jesus offered prayers and supplications with loud cries and tears to God. Jesus was not stoic – but He was obedient through it all.

We are His brothers and sisters. He has drawn us to Himself. May we do the same for others, so that they experience His selfless love...that we and they may experience the blessings that selfless love offers.