Homily for the Wednesday of the Second Week of Easter

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St. Agnes Cathedral

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In the Office of Readings for the Liturgy of the Hours today, we hear in Psalm 39: “You have given me a short span of days; my life is as nothing in your sight. A mere breath, the man who stood so firm, a mere shadow, the man passing by, a mere breath, the riches he hoards, not knowing who will have them.”

Similarly we have the contrast in the Gospel of Matthew between the person who builds the foundation of their existence on shifting sand as opposed to the person who builds the foundation of their life on solid Rock, the Rock of Jesus Christ.

St. Augustine says: “It is a sign of fortitude to cut oneself adrift from all the deadly pleasures of the passing show and to fix our affection on things eternal.”
During Holy Week, Pope Francis said that these challenging times shatter our illusions, our false gods and our false securities.

Part of our daily examination of conscience and spirit of daily repentance as Catholics is to tear up the floorboards of our lives and examine in prayer what are the actual foundations of our lives.

The familiar Gospel we heard from John 3:16 is a critical rock solid foundation for every dimension of our lives: “God so loved the world that he gave his only-begotten Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life.”