

MARCH 10, 2021  
Wednesday of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Week of Lent  
Matthew 5: 17-19

“FULFILLING THE LAW.”

We have different laws to guide us. We have laws to follow for example as we drive our cars. We have traffic lights, stop signs, speed limit, pedestrians, and road courtesy. All of these have implications and purpose – for your safety and others. When you are driving and somebody runs through a stop sign which is your right of way, is strictly speaking the law is on your side but can cause accident if you insist on your right that may lead to disaster or death. By this, we need to exercise the spirit behind the law and common sense that we need to immediately stop, be patient and careful and avoid harm. Yes, you are right and the other is wrong, but the spirit of the law also entails common sense and love. Also, you are not obliged to attend mass everyday, only Sundays and other days the Church has a law that you must be in the Church fulfilling your obligations. You are here on weekdays masses not as a requirement of the law but to fulfill the spirit of the law, that is to love God and pray to Him. You are not sinning even if you do not go to mass, but you are here out of love for the Lord.

“This illustration is close to the idea our Lord had in mind in today's gospel. He said that he had not come to abolish the law found in the Old Testament. That law was an expression of God's will for people, but because it was necessarily put in human words it was an imperfect expression of God's will. The spirit behind the law is what counts, and that spirit is found in the love of God and the neighbor. Jesus fulfilled the law first by his more complete teaching on love, and secondly by his own supreme example of love. It is

his teaching and example that Jesus wants us to follow, and not merely the letter of the law.”<sup>1</sup>

We are also invited to teach others the same way we live the law. We are instruments, the hands, the feet, the mouth, the eyes, and the hands of the Lord, to show to others how fulfilling in following the law of love. When we do this and teach others to do the same, we are living and loving the law according to what Jesus wants us to do. My brothers and sisters let us always do the will of the Father as Jesus did. Let us fulfill the law by not just following it but by loving and embracing it. When we do that, we will be called great in the kingdom of heaven.

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<sup>1</sup> [www.stories4homilies.co](http://www.stories4homilies.co)