

# 2021 Lenten Reflections



Sisters of the Presentation  
of the Blessed Virgin Mary  
*In Joyful Service*

March 7, 2021 ~ Third Sunday of Lent  
**Patience, Understanding, Compassion**

I was driving down 1st Ave SE last week, coming west from Roosevelt Street - a 30 MPH zone - and was behind someone going 10 MPH. 10 miles an hour!! We were in a no-passing zone, so all I could do was follow him and become increasingly irritated.

As we came upon Dakota Street, the light turned green for our little caravan. The driver ahead of me stopped at the green light, and sat there. And sat there.

My impatience with him caused me to tap my horn to get him moving. I had things to do and places to go! As he made a left turn onto Dakota Street, I noticed two things:

One, he was elderly; maybe at some point in the past, someone had run their stop sign and hit him. Maybe, if that was the case, he didn't want to risk an accident, even if it wouldn't be his fault, due to his age. Fear of losing his license as an elderly person, may have been a factor.

Two, his license plate had a very high county number on it. Maybe he was from some small town where no one travels over 15 miles an hour, and therefore, there are no car accidents. Who knows?

But these two observations took the wind right out of my sails, and I immediately felt remorse for my 'get-moving' honk at him.

Lent calls upon us to become better people, to show more patience and understanding and compassion to others. That day, I failed the Lent-test. But I won't fail again. I need to be what Jesus calls us to be - a better person who loves others as myself. Even after Lent is over.

Mo Cantwell  
Presentation Sisters Cojourner