OPENING TALK

- Opening Song: Sanctuary by Randy Rothwell
- Retreat Goals are to be:
 - More honest with yourself
 - More transparent with <u>others</u>
 - Learn that Christian Community is <u>essential</u>
 - We all learn what it means to BECOME EUCHARIST
- To know God we must know ourselves.
 - O What did God reveal to me about me?
 - O What did God reveal to me about him?
- My home Parish Mission
 - We are a Joyful Catholic Community, Disciples of Christ, moved by love to seek the lost and broken and bring them home.
 - O Who are the lost and broken?
 - o Is it possible that we are those lost and broken people?
- G. K. Chesterton, when asked to write an essay by *The Times of London* on the subject, "What's wrong with the world?"
 - o Chesterton gave this simple response.

Dear London Times,

I am.

Sincerely Yours,

G. K. Chesterton

- Little Johnny Cookie story
- Adam and Eve Syndrome
 - We all have recurring sin in our life
- We all have patterns of self-harm in our lives. In other words we all have addictions.
- Addiction: a compulsive behavior despite negative consequences; we repeatedly do stuff that harms us and hurts others.
- We often turn to the allure of sin to self-medicate the pains of life.
- C.S. Lewis book THE GREAT DIVORCE

- Lizard story (Recurring sin)
- When the man finally gave consent to the angel to kill the Lizard it became a White Stallion and He rode it into Heaven Sins can become like best friends
- In order to get into Heaven are you willing to get rid of the Lizard on your shoulder
- To do so requires HONESTY and TRANSPARANCY
- Admitting our brokenness may in fact be the Stallion we ride into Heaven....
- Brokenness exercise (purple paper)
 - Side One:
 - Inability to forgive the past, Grief, Loneliness, health issues, marital or family strife, financial struggles
 - Side Two:
 - What is your recurring sin
 - Not some sin from your past but something today that continues to recur in your life and clouds your relationship with God
- GPS story
 - o Have you ever said no to the Lord?
 - Is it time for a route correction
- Parable of the Broken Door